Guide

for Charter School Planning and Results Reporting

For Education Plans 2004/05 – 2006/07
and AERRs, November 2004 and 2005

Updated November 2004

Alberta
LEARNING

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What's Changed? Highlighting indicates changes since Spring 2004 edition

- Specified the reporting requirements recommended by the Alberta Commission on Learning, (p.151 of the ACOL report):
  - Average class sizes — Pages 13,15, 25, 27
  - Supports for schools and classrooms — Pages 22, 31
  - Authority and teacher professional development plans — Pages 14, 21, 25, 31
  - Fundraising amounts and uses of funds — Pages 15, 25
- Included implications for charter school three-year education plans and AERRs of the Renewed Funding Framework, in particular the Accountability Pillar, and dropped the two financial outcomes in Goal 1. — Pages 1-4; Links, 1, 2, 5 Appendices 6 and 7
- Restored the requirement for an Accountability Statement in the charter school education plans and AERRs. — Pages 6, 13
- Added requirement for a charter school profile to the plan. — Page 7
- New local measures on achievement of special populations of children/ students and students in alternative delivery programs (as applicable). — Pages 16, 18, 19, 23, 24, 31
- Incorporated the expanded set of measures for charter schools from the Accountability Pillar of the Renewed Funding Framework. Specifically an outcome and measure relating to its mandate, from the set of RCO outcomes and measures, and setting targets for and reporting achievement test results combined (all subjects and grades), as well as for each test. — Link 6, Page 31 Link 1, Page 17 Link 2, Page 22 Appendix 3, Page 35
- In plans, the latest available result for measures, rather than multi-year results, needs to be provided along with targets for each year of the plan. — Link 1, Pages 17-20
- Included the list of RCO outcomes and measures, with the Accountability Pillar measures highlighted, to assist charter schools select an RCO measure to complete their set of Accountability Pillar measures). — Appendix 5, Pages 40-47
- In response to the recommendations of the School Council review, a requirement has been added, to be reflected in charter school education plans, that school councils have the opportunity to: — Page 10
  - participate in developing and implementing the charter school's plan
  - develop charter school council strategies for the school plan.
- Appendix 6, Setting Targets for Performance Measures, has been revised extensively and includes the updated timeline for equating of and setting targets for diploma examination results in subsequent years. — Pages 48-53
- Appendix 7, Measuring Performance through Surveys, has been revised extensively and includes information on: — Pages 54-69
  - the new provincial Accountability Pillar surveys of students, parents, and teachers (grades 4, 7, 10) and of board members,
  - a new resource for charter schools on conducting surveys.
- Added a glossary (Appendix 8) — Pages 70-72
- Included a checklist of revised charter school reporting requirements for 2004 (based on the 2003 guide) with reporting class sizes updated. — Link 3, Pages 26-27
- Included an optional format for charter school three-year education plans. — Appendix 9

Clarified:

- Reporting on measures in the AERR according to each goal and outcome. — Page 14, Links 2, 3
- Including an assessment of progress and performance, along with the reporting of performance measure results in the AERR. — Page 14, Links 2, 3
- Reporting protocols when there are small numbers of students or survey respondents to protect privacy of individuals. — Page 14, 17, Links 1, 2, 3
- Corrected achievement test grade 9 Science (writers and cohort) and overall test results for writers. — Pages 35-36
- Reporting all measures in AERR highlights. — Page 13, Link 5

I. Introduction

Revised This guide has been prepared to assist Alberta's charter school authorities in preparing, updating and reporting on their three-year education plans. New and revised contents are labelled.

Purpose of Charter School Planning and Results Reporting

Preparing education plans and reporting results are essential elements of accountability and continuous improvement in basic education. These documents assist boards to:

- improve education for ECS-12 students,
- identify student learning priorities,
- guide decision making and budgeting,
- address provincial directions and local needs,
- enhance communication with parents and the public.

Purpose of the Guide

Revised This guide outlines the specific requirements for charter school three-year education plans for 2004/05 to 2006/07 (due May 31, 2004) and annual education results reports on the 2004/05 school year (due November 30, 2005). **The implications from the Accountability Pillar of the Renewed Funding Framework and the reporting recommended by the Alberta Commission on Learning for charter school education plans and reports have been incorporated and constitute the key changes to the 2004 edition of the guide.**

In this document, general information on education planning and results reporting is separated from specific requirements for charter school education plans for 2004/05 to 2006/07 and Annual Education Results Reports for 2004/05. The general information is provided in Sections I to IV. Specific provincial requirements are provided in the links in Section V. Links 1-3 list the requirements for charter school education plans and results reports. These are reviewed each year. Related reference materials are in Section VI, Appendices.

- **Checklist of Requirements for Charter School Three-Year Education plans, 2004/05 to 2006/07, Link 1**
- **Checklist of Charter School Reporting Requirements for 2005 on the 2004/05 School Year, Link 2**

New

- **Checklist of Revised Charter Reporting Requirements for 2004 on the 2003/04 School Year, Link 3**

While the guide is intended for charter schools in Alberta, it can be used by any organization that seeks to plan its goals, measure its progress, make improvements and communicate its achievements, as it is based on good planning and reporting principles.

II. Planning and Reporting Overview

Charter schools have a unique purpose in Alberta's public education system, to provide different and innovative approaches for improving student learning, not only for the benefit of their own students, but also for use in other schools over the longer term.

Planning and reporting by charter schools throughout Alberta are carried out within the provincial government's Accountability Framework, legislation and regulations that apply to charter schools and Alberta Learning's Renewed Funding Framework. In particular, the revisions to the School Act in Fall, 2001 and the revised Charter Schools Handbook (December, 2002) provide charter schools the opportunity to ensure their charters and all elements of their education plans for 2004/05 to 2006/07 are aligned with provincial legislation and goals. These are available on Alberta Learning's website at: http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/educationsystem/choices.asp

Government of Alberta Accountability Framework

The Accountability Framework for the learning system, based on the *Government Accountability Act*, is an ongoing cycle that enables continuous improvement and critical reflection by:

- setting priorities, measuring progress and using results to develop actions to improve education for students;
- aligning charter school and provincial goals and priorities;
- incorporating community input;
- allocating resources to achieve goals and improve results; and
- communicating with stakeholders (staff, students, parents, school councils, the public and Alberta Learning) about school authority directions and results.

New

Alberta Learning's Renewed Funding Framework

In the context of the Alberta government's Accountability Framework and provincial responsibility for basic education, Alberta Learning worked with a multi-stakeholder committee to review the Funding Framework. The Renewed Funding Framework provides a means to allocate funding to charter boards to provide a quality education that reflects the needs of students and society. It is based on a foundation of three pillars: **Flexibility, Accountability and Formulas** and has the following fundamental characteristics:

- equitable distribution of funds;
- provision of maximum flexibility to accommodate local decision making; and
- public accountability for the use of resources and the results achieved.

Implementation of the Flexibility and Accountability pillars began in 2003/04. The formulas were developed in 2003/04 for implementation in 2004/05.

The Flexibility Pillar provides school authorities with maximum flexibility. Allocations are provided with minimal conditions and spending direction, which allow school authorities to decide how they will use their resources, and how they will implement the various programs they offer, based on their own students' needs and local priorities.

The Accountability Pillar places increased emphasis on achieving outcomes, reporting results and targets, and using results for informed decision making for the purpose of improving programs and student results in subsequent years. Building on

existing accountability processes and practices, school authorities will continue to be accountable for meeting the learning needs of all students, and ensuring that provincial policy, legislation, regulations and standards are met. Charter school performance will be measured and reported by assessing current results against past performance and the specific, well-defined targets set by charter boards on a common set of measures for all school authorities in the public system.

Performance Measures and Targets for the Accountability Pillar, Link 4

The Formulas Pillar is the funding allocation model that recognizes differential costs among school authorities related to factors such as student and community characteristics, school size and location. Funding is enveloped for a limited number of specific provincial initiatives.

For a more detailed description of the Renewed Funding Framework, see Part I of the *Funding Manual for School Authorities for the 2004/05 School Year*, available online at: http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/funding/FundingManual/.

Accountability Cycle for Continuous Improvement in ECS-12 Education

Each level in the Accountability Framework plays a key role, as outlined below:

Government of Alberta

- sets overall provincial direction;
- allocates funds to ministries;
- monitors and reports on progress;
- uses results to plan improvements.

Revised

Alberta Learning

- prepares three-year learning system business plan and guidelines for school authority and post-secondary institution planning and reporting based on provincial direction;
- assesses and reports annually on results and uses results to set targets and plan improvements; identifies provincial priorities for improvement;
- allocates funds to school authorities and post-secondary institutions; and
- defines basic education, establishes outcomes for the K-12 system, reviews school authority and post-secondary institution education plans and results reports for compliance with provincial requirements, for evidence of improvement, and to identify implications for provincial-level planning.

Revised

Charter School Authorities

- plan and implement three-year education plans for the charter school, aligned with Ministry direction;
- allocate resources to programs;
- monitor progress;
- assess and report results annually to stakeholders and the Minister;
- use results to set targets and plan improvements.
- provide information on success of approaches and promising practices used by charter schools, to inform practice in public schools.

References:

- **Legislative Authority, Appendix 1**
- **Basic Education in Alberta – The Definition, Appendix 2**
- **Alberta Learning's Three-Year Business Plan for 2004/05 to 2006/07 http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/department/businessplan/.**
- **Funding Manual for School Authorities for the 2004/05 school year, http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/funding/FundingManual/.**

III. Charter School Planning

Charter school education plans focus on student learning over three years. Some components of these education plans are updated annually, such as strategies and priorities, so that as one year is completed another is added. The plan continues to roll forward, maintaining a three-year time frame. This allows the charter school to respond to recent performance results and changes in the operating environment while maintaining continuity from year to year. Although entirely new education plans are rarely prepared, every few years other components, such as the vision, mission and beliefs should be revisited and refreshed (e.g., at the time an application for charter renewal is under development). The minister must approve any changes to a charter.

Preparing and Updating Education Plans

Charter schools annually update their three-year education plans based on the principle of continuous improvement, with a focus on improving student learning. This annual updating takes into account a number of considerations, including:

- charter school results;
- input from stakeholders such as school councils, students, parents and the public;
- resources available;
- Alberta Learning's three-year plan and annual performance results;
- feedback from Alberta Learning.

Charter school three-year education plans align with and build on Alberta Learning's vision, mission, goals and outcomes for the learning system. Charter schools may augment the goals and outcomes **required** by the province by incorporating charter goals and outcomes to reflect their unique philosophy and purpose, and the improved student learning outcomes to be attained by the school.

Communication

Charter school three-year education plans serve as a valuable tool for communicating with staff, school councils, parents and community groups and the broader education community. Charter schools have an obligation to use a variety of means to inform parents and other members of their community of their goals, education plans, results and priorities for improving education for students, and for the use of resources. Charter schools are **required** to share their effective practices and innovative approaches with the broader education system through such means as Open Houses, presentations at conferences, distribution of documents, etc.

Publication and Notification Requirements for Charter Schools, Link 5

Alberta Learning staff review charter school education plans and results reports to ensure alignment with provincial goals and priorities for improvement, their charter mandate and to provide input into provincial-level planning for the learning system.

Elements of Charter School Education Plans

Listed below are the elements that characterize a good plan. Alberta Learning requires some of these elements, as noted.

Revised

Foundation statements, such as vision, mission, principles, and/or beliefs articulate the charter school's purpose. Contextual information, such as a charter school profile, trends and issues that affect operations, describe the planning environment.
Alberta Learning **requires** charter school education plans to include the following:

- an accountability statement (new);
- vision
- mission
- profile (new)
- charter goals and related outcomes;
- provincial goals and related outcomes;
- provincial priorities for improvement;
- performance measures for outcomes and priorities for improvement;
- local targets for the performance measures;
- strategies for outcomes and priorities for improvement.
- highlights of the charter school's capital and financial education plans,
- a communication plan.

If the charter school is in the first year of its charter term, the following also are required:

- Trends and Issues
- Principles and/or Beliefs

These elements of education planning, taken together, combine to form an education plan for the charter school that enables school staff and stakeholders to know where the charter school is going, how it education plans to get there, how progress will be measured and how resources will be used along the way.

New

***Accountability Statement** [Required]*

The Accountability Statement, signed by the superintendent and charter board chair, is the charter school's commitment to implement the plan and achieve the outcomes and targets, stated as follows:

> The Education Plan for (name of charter school) the three years commencing September 1, (year), was prepared under the direction of the charter board in accordance with the responsibilities specified in the *School Act*, the *Government Accountability Act*, the *Policy on School Authority Education Plans* and the provincial government's accounting policies. The priorities outlined in this Education Plan were developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal education plans. The charter board is committed to achieving the planned results laid out in this Plan.

Foundation Statements

The vision, mission, and principles and/or beliefs of a plan reflect the charter school's aims and values.

***Vision** [Required]*

A vision looks to the future. It describes a set of ideal circumstances and results that charter schools strive to achieve. These ideals focus on student achievements and the

programs or services that maximize student learning. The vision in the education plan should be consistent with the charter agreement and with Alberta Learning's vision for the provincial learning system:

The best learning system in the world.

***Mission** [Required]*

A mission statement is a clear, concise description of the charter school's overall purpose and role. It gives direction to the programs and services that the charter school provides for its students and should be consistent with the charter agreement and Alberta Learning's mission:

> *Alberta Learning, through its leadership and work with stakeholders, ensures that learners are prepared for lifelong learning, work and citizenship so they are able to contribute to a democratic, knowledge-based and prosperous society.*

***Principles and/or Beliefs** [Required if in first year of any charter term]*

Principles or belief statements guide decision-making and provide a foundation for developing mission and vision statements and goals for the charter school. Alberta Learning has established the following principles for the learning system:

> *learner-centred, accessible, collaborative, accountable, responsive, innovative and equitable.*

These would be reflected in the charter school's statements of principles and/or beliefs.

Contextual Information

This information describes the charter school's context and operating environment.

***Profile** [Required]*

A profile is a brief (e.g., one page) description of the charter school that gives context for the plan. Profiles include the purpose, description of students for whom the charter school is intended, characteristics of programs and location.

***Trends and Issues** [Required in first year of any charter term]*

Trends and issues help charter schools identify opportunities and challenges that may impact planning, budgeting, providing programs and achieving results. A trend shows a direction of data over time, e.g. enrolment growth. An issue is a condition that may affect the organization's ability to fulfill its mandate or to achieve its goals.

Goals, Outcomes, Priorities, Measures and Strategies *[Required]*

These elements are aligned with provincial goals, priorities for improvement, outcomes, measures and targets, and they address charter school aims, priorities and circumstances.

***Goals** [Required]*

Goals, vision and mission are broad statements that look towards the long term and steer organizations in the direction of realizing their vision. Goals are typically expressed as desired conditions or aims. Charter school authorities **must** include the primary goals(s) and measurable outcomes related to the particular teaching philosophy, vision and purpose on which their charter is based, as well as incorporate Alberta Learning's goals that guide the direction of the learning system overall.

***Outcomes** [Required]*

Outcomes are measurable statements of what charter schools seek to achieve. In broad terms, they answer the question, "What will this look like when we get to where we want to be?" Charter school education plans must include at least one outcome for each charter goal, the **required** provincial outcomes for provincial goals, and local outcomes for provincial and local goals. They must include improved student learning outcomes and reflect the requirements of Section 35(b) of the School Act. Charter schools may include additional local outcomes. Each goal **requires** at least one outcome.

List of Required Performance Measures for Charter School Education Plans, 2004/05 to 2006/07, Link 6

***Priority Areas for Improvement** [Required]*

Priority areas for improvement reflect local and province-wide performance areas that require immediate, concerted attention. Reviewing annual performance results is an important basis for selecting priorities in areas where results do not meet expectations. Selecting and addressing priorities for improvement are essential aspects of the accountability cycle for continuous improvement in Alberta's basic learning system. Charter school education plans are **required** to include strategies and measures in their plan for provincial and local priorities for improvement.

Revised Listed below are the **required** provincial priorities for improvement for the basic education system and the corresponding **required** measures (as applicable). The priorities are presented in an order generally reflecting progression through school.

Provincial Priorities for Improvement	Performance Measures*
• Improving early literacy and numeracy	• Percentages of students in Grade 3 who achieved the acceptable standard on provincial achievement tests (cohort results) in mathematics and language arts.
• Improving children's access to services through coordination of services	• Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who agree that services and supports for children at risk (i.e., students who may not be able to achieve the acceptable standard) are easy to access and timely.
• Improving learning through effective use of information and communications technology	• Percentages of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including ... **technology**
• Improving programs and results for First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners	• Local measure of Aboriginal student achievement.
• Improving secondary student achievement in mathematics	• Percentages of students in Grade 9 who achieved the acceptable standard on the provincial achievement test in mathematics (cohort results).
• Increasing high school completion rates	• Local measure of high school completion (or adaptation) for charter schools with high school programs.
• Improving community satisfaction with education	• Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members satisfied with the overall quality of education in Alberta.

* All specified measures for the priorities for improvement are from the Accountability Pillar (as applicable). Charter schools select an appropriate local measure of Aboriginal student achievement for the First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) priority. Alberta Learning is working to improve information on Aboriginal student achievement.

Revised

Performance Measures and Targets [Required]

Performance measures are the assessment tools that charter schools use to track how far along they are in achieving the outcomes in their plan. Charter school education plans include at least one measure for each outcome. Measures are quantitative and are expressed as *numbers of* (in relation to a total) or *percentages of*.

Charter school education plans include the measures that will be used to assess and report results, and the most recent result for these measures, if available. These include the **required** provincial measures, including the Accountability Pillar measures (see Links 4 and 6), and performance measures for the unique outcomes emanating from their charter.

Targets are strategic tools to help charter schools focus on improving or maintaining results that have reached a high level. Targets show desired levels of performance to be attained by a certain time. Locally developed targets are **required** for the required measures for which there is trend data, and charter goal measures. Targets are encouraged for local measures.

Specifically, targets **must** be set for the required measures, including the Accountability Pillar measures, as follows:

- A target for the first year of the plan when there are two years of results for the measure;
- Targets for two years when there are three years of results;
- Targets for all three years of the plan when there are three or more years of results.

List of Required Performance Measures and Targets for Charter School Education Plans, 2004/05 to 2006/07, Link 6

Note: Alberta Learning provides multi-year reports on the Extranet on the Accountability Pillar measures that charter schools include in their three-year education plans and use to set targets and improve programs for students.

References

Provincial Results and Targets for Charter School Performance Measures, Appendix 3

Performance Measurement, Appendix 4

Set of Outcomes and Measures – Review Committee on Outcomes, Appendix 5

Setting Targets for Performance Measures, Appendix 6

Measuring Performance through Surveys, Appendix 7

Revised

Strategies [Required]

Strategies are actions that charter schools take to achieve goals and desired outcomes that meet the needs of their students. Charter schools are **required** to develop strategies for each outcome, and develop strategies to address:

- provincial and local priorities for improvement
- enveloped funding initiatives: Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AISI), Student Health Initiative and High Speed Networking.

In developing strategies for their plan, charter schools should consider:

- the needs of their entire student population, ECS to 12, including any special populations, as applicable (e.g., children/student with special needs, Aboriginal children/students, children/students whose first language is other than English and

children/students who are at risk academically) and students in alternate delivery methods such as online education.
- any major curriculum changes,
- support services needs of schools and students (e.g. teaching assistants, teacher librarians and counsellors), and
- in-service and professional development needs of staff.

New

School councils of charter schools **must** have the opportunity to participate in the development and implementation of the charter school's education plan and the opportunity to develop and include strategies the council intends to pursue to support the achievement of the outcomes in the charter school's education plan.

***Highlights of Capital Plan** [Required]*

Alberta Infrastructure supports charter school facility needs by assisting charter schools to find suitable space as well as providing funding for leasing space and for upgrading leased space. In respect of this responsibility, Alberta Infrastructure **requires** that charter schools submit Capital Plans that contain information on their facility needs for the next three years. As these capital plans reflect the charter school's program and the educational needs of students in charter schools, Alberta Learning **requires** that charter schools include a summary of their capital plans in their three-year education plans.

The Capital Plan Highlights section of the charter school plan presents a clear, concise summary for parents and the public of the charter school's facility requirements for the next three years. These highlights **must:**
- include the educational purpose and benefits to students (rationale) of the charter schools Capital Plan, such as enrolment growth, enrolment shift (e.g., elementary to secondary), need for physical upgrades or specialized space (e.g., laboratories);
- be based on the Capital Plan submitted to Alberta Infrastructure for the corresponding three years; and
- contain information on how readers can obtain more information about the charter school's Capital Plan.

***Budget Highlights** [Required]*

This section presents highlights from the charter school board's budget for the first year of the three-year plan in a way that is easily understood, transparent and meaningful to the public. Budget highlights should provide key financial information about the upcoming school year, focusing on anticipated material changes from the current year. This section may refer to budgeted changes in enrolment, certificated and uncertificated staff, programs, funding, revenues and expenses, annual surpluses or deficits and accumulated surpluses. The section must include:
- guiding principles the charter school board uses in financial planning;
- charts and/or tables presenting summarized information from the board's budget;
- information on where readers can obtain detailed charter school budget information.

Communication Plan *[Required]*

Charter schools have an obligation to share their effective practices and innovative approaches for the benefit of Alberta's education system as a whole. To support accomplishing this priority, charter school education plans **must** include a Communication Plan that outlines how the school will carry out this obligation.

The elements of a good communication plan include:

- objectives,
- audiences,
- key messages, and
- an action plan (specific communication strategies) with timelines.

IV. Charter School Results Reporting

Charter schools assess and report annually on their progress and achievements and use the results information to identify improvements to address in the next update of their plan. Every few years charter school authorities may wish to undertake a major retrospective by assessing accomplishments over a longer span of time (e.g., approaching the end of the term of the charter, or in preparation for applying to renew their charter).

Revised

Results Reporting

Each year charter school authorities measure their performance and report on the progress toward achieving the goals and outcomes of their three-year education plans in their Annual Education Results Report (AERR). The performance measure results are a primary source of information for assessing and reporting on performance, and for determining where improvements are needed.

The annual results report informs stakeholders where the charter school authority is in relation to where it wants to be in achieving its goals and outcomes. It demonstrates that the charter school board is accountable for results and for the wise use of resources to provide quality programs for students and to address improvement priorities. AERRs provide charter school authorities the opportunity to summarize their accomplishments, in addition to reporting on performance.

Communication *[Requirement]*

AERRs provide charter school authorities the opportunity to summarize their accomplishments in addition to reporting on performance measures.

AERRs are public documents. Charter school authorities communicate results to parents, the public education system and the larger community. A variety of methods are available, including newspaper inserts, brochures, web sites, a charter school report card, community meetings, and so forth. These summaries of the charter school AERR **must** include the results for all performance measures in the corresponding education plan, including the Accountability Pillar measures.

In keeping with their unique role in Alberta's learning system to implement innovative approaches to student learning that can be used to improve education for students throughout the province, charter schools authorities are required to share their effective practices and results with Alberta's public education system and the Ministry of Learning.

Publication and Notification Requirements for Charter Schools, Link 5

Alberta Learning staff review charter school authority AERRs to ensure alignment with the charter and provincial goals and to provide input into provincial-level planning for the learning system.

Elements of Charter School Annual Education Results Reports

The Charter School Annual Education Results Report (AERR) provides information on the charter school's major accomplishments and results of the past year, with a focus on

results for students. Listed below are the elements that characterize a results report. Those elements required by Alberta Learning are noted.

New **Accountability Statement** *[Required]*

The accountability statement, signed by the charter school superintendent and board chair, indicates that the charter board is responsible for taking action based on results in order to improve in areas where results are below expectations and to maintain good performance in areas where results exceed expectations. The **required** wording of the Accountability Statement follows:

> The *Annual Education Results Report* for (name of charter school) for the (year) school year was prepared under the direction of the charter board, in accordance with the responsibilities specified in the *School Act*, the *Government Accountability Act*, and *Policy on Annual Education Results Reports* and the provincial government's accounting policies. The results are used to the best of our abilities to make continuous improvements by developing strategies for three-year education plans to ensure that all students have the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to be self-reliant, responsible, caring and contributing members of society.

Highlights *[Required]*

This section briefly highlights the charter school results and accomplishments for the last year and must highlight the results of the **required** provincial Accountability Pillar measures and charter goal measures.

Revised **Summary of Accomplishments**

This information highlights the charter school authority's major activities to implement its education plan over the past year. This section also gives the charter school the opportunity to celebrate its successes.

Charter schools are **required** to report on progress and outcomes of specific provincial initiatives that receive enveloped funding under the Renewed Funding Framework: AISI, Student Health (SHIP), High Speed Networking and average class sizes. This reporting can be included in an Accomplishments section, except for average class size reporting, which is in a separate report.

Note: Charter schools are **required** to report AISI project summaries in the AERR, focusing on results achieved. For projects that have reached the end of their three-year term, this information must include highlights of the results of the summative evaluation. (See *AISI Administrative Handbook*. The original *AISI Administrative Handbook*, December 1999, is being updated and will be posted in Spring 2004, on the AISI web site at: http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/special/aisi/).

New Charter boards have considerable flexibility and discretion when it comes to deciding how to allocate and use the funding provided. Charter boards continue to be responsible for providing appropriate programs for all their students and for the achievement of all students. As such, the results report should include highlights of:

- actions taken (programs provided and modified) and progress made in achieving the charter school's mandate and improving learning for students
- actions taken (e.g. programs provided and changed) and progress made in meeting the needs of special populations of students (as applicable):
  - Children/students for whom English is a second language,

- Aboriginal children/students,
- Children/students with special needs, and
- Children/students who are academically at risk,

- alternate delivery programs provided (as applicable) such as on-line education.

New

In response to the recommendations of the Alberta Commission on Learning, school boards **are required to** report:

- the highlights of their professional development plan, including major areas of professional development focus for the 2004/05 school year;
- reflection on the professional development plan's impact on teacher practice;
- a statement indicating the percentage of teachers having an annual teacher professional growth plan; and

the percentage of teacher growth plans aligned to the school's improvement plan.

The Summary of Accomplishments also should address any other significant initiatives, such as implementation of new curricula.

Performance Measures Results *[Required]*

Charter schools are **required** to assess and report performance results in relation to the goals, outcomes and priorities for improvement for all measures contained in the corresponding education plan. This includes:

- the **required** measures, including the Accountability Pillar measures and charter goal measures, and
- local measures.

Note: Measures must be reported on exactly as defined in the charter school education plan. Alberta Learning will note exceptions.

Revised

For these measures, AERRs **must** include five years of charter school and provincial results (or as many years as available if less than five), as well as the provincial and charter school target for the most recent year of results. Charter school authorities analyze performance results and **must** include in the AERR an assessment of their progress toward achieving the outcomes and goals of their three-year plan, including performance over time and in relation to targets. Contextual information can be provided to explain results and describe the environment in which results were achieved. This qualitative information enhances understanding of quantitative results and contributes to the overall assessment and reporting of progress and achievement.

Note: Alberta Learning provides the results for all Accountability Pillar measures to school authorities on the Extranet. Consistent with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, when the number in a group of students or survey participants is fewer than six, data must not be reported to protect individual privacy.

Checklist of Charter School Reporting Requirements for 2005 on the 2004/05 school year, Link 2

Checklist of Revised Charter School Reporting Requirements for 2004 on the 2003/04 school year, Link 3

Provincial results and targets on the required measures for which data are available are provided in Appendix 3.

Provincial Results and Targets for Required Performance Measures, Appendix 3

Future Challenges *[Required]*

Charter school authorities briefly describe the major education issues and priorities for the next few years, including priorities for improvement identified from the assessment of results. This section also discusses emerging issues and trends that have implications for the charter school.

Summary of Capital Plan Results *[Required]*

Charter schools highlight, for parents and the public, the results achieved in implementing their Capital Plan for the school year from the funds provided by Alberta Infrastructure, focusing on the benefits to students.

Revised **Financial Summary** *[Required]*

In the financial summary, charter schools communicate to the public the key messages arising from their audited financial statements that are relevant to the evaluation of the year's financial results. This section should be transparent, understandable and:

- provide the reader with key financial information about the school year, such as significant changes over the prior year, the annual operating surplus or deficit, accumulated operating surplus, and capital reserves;
- include program expenditure information in a table or graph format for the primary audience – parents and other members of the community;
- *New* include a statement specifying:
  - where more information on the school's sources of school generated funds and their uses can be obtained (e.g. link to the Audited Financial Statement (AFS), contact at central office);
  - that comparative information is available in a provincial report and provide the weblink to the provincial roll up of jurisdiction AFS information: http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/funding/afs/; and
- indicate how readers can access additional financial information.

New **Average Class Size** *[Required]*

An Extranet tool has been developed to assist schools in reporting average class sizes starting in the fall of 2004. Schools will receive information about this separately.

- Report the unverified average class size report for the school by posting the report on the school's website and providing a web link in the AERR to the class size report.
- By January 15, post an addendum to the school's AERR that contains the following:
  - A summary of the school's three-year plan to achieve the class size guidelines recommended by the Alberta Commission on Learning and/or how the school plans to enhance classroom learning;
  - The verified report of school September 30, 2003, 2004 and 2005 average class size survey results for K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12;
  - A statement indicating where more detailed information can be obtained (e.g., Web site); and
- Notify Alberta Learning of this posting via e-mail to: field.services@learning.gov.ab.ca

V. Links

Link 1
Checklist of Requirements for Charter School Three-Year Education Plans, 2004/05 – 2006/07

- ❑ Indicate how information on the plan was or will be communicated to parents and the public.
- ❑ Accountability Statement

Charter School Education Plans

Include:

- ❑ Vision, Mission, Profile (page 6, 7)
- ❑ Principles and/or Beliefs (page 7) if new or newly renewed charter
- ❑ Trends and Issues (page 7) if new or newly renewed charter
- ❑ Charter School Goals, Outcomes, measures and targets (page 7, 29, 31)

Reflect the three provincial goals:

- ❑ Goal 1: High Quality Learning Opportunities for All
- ❑ Goal 2: Excellence in Learner Outcomes
- ❑ Goal 3: Highly Responsive and Responsible Charter School

and related outcomes, measures and targets.

Goals, Outcomes, Priorities for Improvement, Strategies, Measures and Targets

In developing strategies, charter school education plans **must** reflect specific provincial funding initiatives – AISI, Student Health and High Speed Networking – and consider:

- charter school philosophy, vision purpose and mandate,
- improved student learning outcomes to be obtained,
- new or revised programs of study,
- providing programs for all ECS-12 children/students in the charter school, including special populations (as applicable) such as those whose first language is other than English, children/students with special needs, Aboriginal children/students, children/students academically at risk, and students in programs that use alternate delivery methods such as online programs,
- providing support services for students and classrooms, such as teaching assistants, teacher librarians, counsellors, and
- teacher in-service and development needs.

In addition to the required outcomes and measures listed by goal below, charter schools are **required** to include in the charter goal section of their education plan an outcome and associated measure relating to their charter school mandate as part of the Accountability Pillar selected from the set of outcomes and measures developed by the Review Committee on Outcomes (RCO). The list of RCO outcomes and measures are included in this document in Appendix 5 and also is available online at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/rco/.

Note: For charter schools that offer programs at specific grade levels, some required provincial performance measures and targets are not applicable. (Examples: For a charter school with only elementary programming, performance measures for diploma examinations and high school completion are not applicable. Conversely,

for a charter school with only high school programming, performance measures and targets for provincial achievement tests are not applicable.

Alberta Learning provides results for the required measures, including the Accountability Pillar measures, to charter school authorities on the Extranet for use in education plans and reports. **(For measures with results, include the latest available provincial and charter school results. For the survey measures, list the measure and indicate it is under development and no target is required in the 2004/05 to 2006/07 plan.)** See Appendix 3 for the latest provincial results and targets.

Note: Consistent with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, when the number of students or survey participants in a group is fewer than six, data must not be reported to protect individual privacy.

Charter Goals

Outcome: Outcomes that reflect the particular teaching philosophy, vision or purpose of the school and that reflect improved student learning to be attained by students.

Measure:

- Locally determined measures and targets required, one of which must be from the Review Committee on Outcomes (RCO) set of outcomes and measures (Appendix 5).

Provincial Goal 1: High Quality Learning Opportunities for All

Outcome: The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving learning through effective use of information and communications technology.

- At least one strategy for this priority.

Measure:

New

- Percentages of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, career, **technology**, health and physical education (under development). **Note:** The technology aspect of this measure is the measure for the priority on effective use of technology. Charter schools should note this in their plan.

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving community satisfaction with education.

- At least one strategy for this priority.

Measure:

New

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members satisfied with the overall quality of education in Alberta (under development).

Other Measures for this Outcome:

New

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who agree that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others, and are treated fairly in school (under development).

Outcome: All Albertans can participate in quality learning.

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

Priority Area for Improvement: Improving children's access to services through coordination of services.

- At least one strategy for this priority.

Measure:

New

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who agree that services and supports for children at risk are easy to access and timely (under development).

Provincial Goal 2: Excellence in Learner Outcomes

Outcome: Learners demonstrate high standards.

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving programs and results for First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners.

- At least one strategy for this priority.

New

- Local measure for Aboriginal student achievement.

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving early literacy and numeracy.

- At least one strategy for this priority.

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving secondary student achievement in mathematics, as applicable.

- At least one strategy for this priority.

Measure:

- Percentages of students (both writers and the cohort) in grades 3, 6 and 9 (as applicable) who achieved the acceptable standards and who achieved the standard of excellence on each provincial achievement test. Also include, for both writers and the cohort, the combined results for all subjects and grades. Specifically:
  - For the above, provide in table format the most recent year of charter school and provincial results as well as charter school and provincial targets for each year of the plan. (Examples are provided on pages 8 and 9 of Appendix 9.)
  - Also indicate on the table of **cohort** results and targets that:
    - Grade 3 results at the acceptable standard in language arts and mathematics measure the provincial priority: improving early literacy and numeracy,
    - Grade 9 results at the acceptable standard in mathematics measure the provincial priority: improving secondary student achievement in mathematics.

Note:

- The combined result and target (all subjects and grades) is an unweighted average of the results or the targets for acceptable and for excellence for all subjects and grades for a particular year.

Other Measures for this Outcome (as applicable):

- Percentages of students who achieved the acceptable standard, and the percentages who achieved the standard of excellence on diploma examinations (most recent year of charter school and provincial results for each course). Targets not required in the 2004/05-2006/07 plan.
- Participation rates in diploma examination courses (most recent year of charter school and provincial rates for each course).
- Percentages of Grade 12 students eligible for Rutherford scholarships (with the most recent year of charter school and provincial results and charter school and targets for each year of the plan).

New

- Local measures of achievement of special populations of children/students and for students in alternate delivery methods (as applicable):

- children/students for whom English is a second language,
- children/students with special needs,
- children/students who are academically at risk, and
- students in online programs,.

Outcome: Learners complete programs. (if applicable)

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Increasing high school completion rates (as applicable)

- At least one strategy for this priority.

Measure:

Revised

- Local measure of high school completion or other applicable measure (for charter schools with high school programs).

Outcome: Learners are well prepared for lifelong learning (if applicable)

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

Measure:

- Local measure.

New

- Percentages of teachers and parents satisfied that high school students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes for lifelong learning (for charter schools with high school programs). Under development.

Outcome: Learners are well prepared for employment (if applicable).

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

Measure:

New

- Percentages of teachers, parents and board members who agree that students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work (under development).

Outcome: Learners are well prepared for citizenship.

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

Measure:

New

- Percentages of teachers, parents and board members satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship (under development).

Provincial Goal 3: Highly Responsive and Responsible Charter School

Outcome: Improved results through effective working relationships on cross-ministry initiatives and with stakeholders.

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

Measure:

New

- Percentages of teachers, parents and board members satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education (under development).

Outcome: The charter school demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.

- At least one strategy for this outcome.

New

Measure:

- Percentages of teachers, parents, and board members surveyed who indicate that their charter school and has improved, stayed the same or declined in the last three years (under development).

Other

- Local goal(s), if applicable, **Specify -**
  - Local outcomes for each local goal – **Specify –**

- At least one strategy for each local outcome.
- At least one measure for each local outcome.

- Local priorities for improvement, if applicable, – Relates to any goal(s) the charter school considers appropriate – **please specify goal**.
  - At least one strategy for each local priority.
  - At least one measure for each local priority for improvement.

Highlights of School Capital Plans (page 10)

- Educational purposes of the projects and benefits to students,
- How it reflects the charter school's Infrastructure Maintenance Program (IMP) priorities, formerly Building Quality Restoration Program (BQRP) and three-year capital plan,
- Where and how the reader can get more detailed information.

Budget Highlights (page 10)

- Charter school board's guiding principles for financial planning.
- Summarized information for parent and community members, in charts or tables.
- Where and how the reader can get more detailed information on the board's budget.

Communication Plan (page 11)

- Objectives.
- Audience.
- Key Messages.
- Action Plan (with timelines).

New

Other:

- Information on charter school council involvement in the development of the plan (or opportunity to participate), and school council strategies (if developed).
- Any other information required by the charter school board.

Link 2: Checklist of Charter School Reporting Requirements for 2005 on the 2004/05 School Year

Note: For charter schools that offer programs at specific grade levels, some required provincial performance measures and targets are not applicable. (Examples: For a charter school with only elementary programming, performance measures for diploma examinations and high school completion are not applicable. Conversely, for a charter school with only high school programming, performance measures and targets for provincial achievement tests are not applicable.

CHARTER SCHOOL AERRS (NOVEMBER 2005)

- ❑ Highlights of results information.
- ❑ Indicate how results information was or will be communicated to parents and the public.
- ❑ Summary of effective practices and innovations, and the success of the Communication Plan.
- ❑ Indicate how the charter school AERR was communicated to parents and the community.

Summary of Accomplishments, including reporting on provincial initiatives that receive enveloped funding, focussing on progress and results (pages 13-14):

- ❑ Student Health
- ❑ High Speed Networking
- ❑ Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AISI). See AISI Handbook online http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/special/aisi/aisi_handbook.pdf;

Other:

- ❑ Programs and progress for special populations and students in alternate delivery programs
- ❑ Major areas of professional development focus for the school and reflection on the impact on teacher practice.
- ❑ The percentage of teachers having an annual teacher professional growth plan and the percentage of these plans aligned to the school's improvement plan;
- ❑ Other accomplishments as a result of implementing the strategies in the plan, such as implementation of new curriculum.

Reporting and Analysis of Performance Measures (page 14, Link 6).
Report results for the measures in the plan and assessment of progress. This includes reporting results on applicable required measures in Link 6 in relation to provincial results (up to five years of data if available) and in relation to charter school and provincial targets for 2004/05. Include an assessment of progress toward achieving the respective goals and outcomes.

Notes:

- In the results report, the charter school must maintain consistent wording of goals, outcomes and measures as written in the corresponding education plan.
- Measures that relate to provincial priorities for improvement are noted.
- In addition to the measures specified below, the measure selected by the charter school board related to its mandate should be reported in relation to the corresponding charter goal and outcome.
- Alberta Learning provides results to school authorities for the Accountability Pillar measures. See Appendix 3 for available provincial results and targets on required measures.

- Consistent with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act*, when the number of students or survey participants in a group is fewer than six, data must not be reported to protect individual privacy.

Charter Goals

Outcome: Outcomes that reflect the particular teaching philosophy, vision or purpose of the school, and that reflect improved student learning outcomes to be attained by students.

Measure:

- Locally determined measures and targets required, one of which must be from the Review Committee on Outcomes (RCO) set of outcomes and measures (Appendix 5).

Provincial Goal 1: High Quality Learning Opportunities for All

Outcome: The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.

Priorities for Improvement:

- Improving learning through effective use of information and communications technology.
- Improving community satisfaction with education.

Measures to report and assess:

- Percentages of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, career, **technology**, health, physical education and, where appropriate, religious education (two years of charter school and provincial results). Indicate that the results for the technology question measure the provincial priority for improvement: improving learning through effective use of information and communications technology.
- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members satisfied with the overall quality of education in Alberta (two years of charter school and provincial results). Indicate that these results measure the provincial priority for improvement: improving community satisfaction with education.
- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who agree that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others, and are treated fairly in school (two years of charter school and provincial results).

Outcome: All Albertans participate in quality learning.

Priority for Improvement: Improving children's access to services through coordination of services.

Measure to report and assess:

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who agree that services and supports for children at risk are easy to access and timely (two years of charter school and provincial results). Indicate that these results measure the provincial priority for improvement: improving children's access to services through coordination of services.
- Percentages of teachers, parents and students satisfied with support services provided for schools and students, such as teaching assistance, library services and counselling (under development). More information will be provided on this reporting requirement when available.

Provincial Goal 2: Excellence in Learner Outcomes

Outcome: Learners demonstrate high standards.
Priority for Improvement: Improving programs and results for First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) learners.
Measure to report and assess:

- Local measure of Aboriginal student achievement. Indicate that this is the measure for the FNMI priority.

Priority for Improvement: Improving early literacy and numeracy (if applicable).
Priority for Improvement: Improving secondary student achievement in mathematics (if applicable).
Measures to report and assess:

- Percentages of students (results for cohort and writers) in grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the acceptable standards, and the percentages who achieved the standard of excellence on provincial achievement tests. Specifically:
  - Provide in table or graph format five years of charter school and provincial results at the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence on each test for writers and the cohort. Also include five years of combined results (all subjects and grades) for the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence for writers and the cohort.
  - Report the charter school and provincial targets for 2004/05 for both writers and the cohort for each test and for the combined results in relation to the 2004/05 results.
  - Also indicate on the table of **cohort** results that
    - Grade 3 results at the acceptable standard in language arts and mathematics results are the measures for the provincial priority: improving early literacy and numeracy,
    - Grade 9 results at the acceptable standard in mathematics measure the provincial priority to improve secondary student achievement in mathematics.

    Note: The combined result or target (all subjects and grades for the acceptable standard and for the standard of excellence) for a particular year is the unweighted average of the results or the targets for all subjects and grades.
- Percentages of students who achieved the acceptable standard and the percentages who achieved the standard of excellence on diploma examinations (as applicable; five years of charter school and provincial results for each examination).
- Participation rates in diploma examination courses (as applicable; five years of charter school and provincial rates for each course).

Note: The combined result and target (all subjects and grades) is an unweighted average of the results or the targets for acceptable and for excellence for all subjects and grades for a particular year.

- Percentages of students who achieved the acceptable standard and the percentages who achieved the standard of excellence on diploma examinations (as applicable; five years of charter school and provincial results for each examination).
- Participation rates in diploma examination courses (as applicable; five years of charter school and provincial rates for each course).

- Percentage of Grade 12 students eligible for Rutherford scholarships (as applicable; five years of charter school and provincial results and 2004/05 charter school results in relation to charter school target).
- Local measure of achievement for special populations of students and alternate delivery methods (as applicable):
  - Children/students for whom English is a second language,
  - Children/students with special needs,
  - Children/students who are academically at risk, and
  - Online programs.

  Note: Consistent with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act*, when the number of students or survey participants in a group is fewer than six, data must not be reported to protect individual privacy.

Outcome: Learners complete programs (as applicable).
Priority for Improvement: Increase high school completion rates.
Measure to report and assess:

- Local measure of high school completion (for charter schools with high school programs) or other applicable measure.

Outcome: Learners are well prepared for lifelong learning (as applicable; two years of charter school and provincial results).
Measure to report and assess:

- Percentages of teachers and parents satisfied that high school students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning.

Outcome: Learners are well prepared for employment (as applicable).
Measure to report and assess:

- Percentages of teachers, parents and board members who agree that students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work (two years of charter school and provincial results).

Outcome: Learners are well prepared for citizenship.
Measure to report and assess:

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members surveyed who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship (two years of charter school and provincial results).

Provincial Goal 3: Highly Responsive and Responsible Charter School

Outcome: Improved results through effective working relationships on cross-ministry initiatives and with stakeholders.
Measure to report and assess:

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education (two years of charter school and provincial results).

Outcome: The charter school demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.
Measure to report and assess:

- Percentages of teachers, parents and board members surveyed who indicate that their charter school have improved, stayed the same or declined in the last three years (two years of charter school and provincial results).

- Percentages of teachers and board members who agree that in-services received from the school authority have effectively addressed teachers' professional development needs and have contributed significantly to teachers' on-going professional development.

Other

- Future Challenges – major issues, concerns and priorities for the next few years (page 15).
- Highlights of Capital Plan Results for the year - including benefits to students (page 15).

- Financial Summary (page 15) – include:
  - key financial information on the previous school year, noting significant changes,
  - a statement specifying
    - where more information on the school's sources of school generated funds and their uses can be obtained (e.g. weblink to the Audited Financial Statement (AFS), contact at central office),
    - where comparative information is available online and provide the weblink to the provincial summary of school AFS information: www.learning.gov.ab.ca/funding/afs/;
  - program expenditure information in a table or graph format, and
  - information on how the reader can access additional financial information (page 15).

Average Class Sizes *[Required]*

- Report the unverified average class sizes for K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12 for September 2003, 2004 and 2005 for the school by posting the report generated by the Extranet application on the school's website and providing a web link in the AERR to the class size report.
- By January 15, 2006 post an addendum to the school's AERR that contains the following:
  - A summary of the school's updated three-year plan to achieve the ACOL class size guidelines and/or how the school plans to enhance classroom learning.
  - The verified class size report of school September 30, 2003, 2004 and 2005 class size survey results for K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12.
  - A statement indicating where more detailed information can be obtained (e.g., Web site).
  - Inform Alberta Learning of the posting via e-mail to: field.services@learning.gov.ab.ca.

Note: Consistent with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act*, when the number of students or a survey participants in a group is fewer than six, data must not be reported to protect individual privacy.

Link 3: Checklist of Revised Charter School Reporting Requirements for 2004 on the 2003/04 School Year

This checklist is based on the reporting requirements contained in the 2003 guide for School Board Planning and Results Reporting online at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/department/planning/schoolguides/SBPRGuide2003.pdf

Note: For charter schools that offer programs at specific grade levels, some required provincial performance measures and targets are not applicable. (Examples: For a charter school with only elementary programming, performance measures for diploma examinations and high school completion are not applicable. Conversely, for a charter school with only high school programming, performance measures and targets for provincial achievement tests are not applicable.

CHARTER SCHOOL ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT, NOVEMBER 2004

- Highlights of results information.
- Indicate how results information was or will be communicated to parents and the public.
- Summary of effective practices and innovations, and the success of the Communication Plan.
- Indicate how the charter school AERR was communicated to parents and the community.

Reporting and Analysis of Performance Measures (page 14, Link 6).
Report and comment on performance and progress toward achieving goals and outcomes for all measures in the education plan for 2003/04 to 2005/06, including the following required measures:

For Goal 2 – excellence in learner outcomes:

- Percentages of students writing provincial achievement tests who achieved the acceptable standard, and percentages who achieved the standard of excellence (five years of results) in relation to provincial results, and to charter school and provincial targets for 2003/04.
- Percentages of all students in grades 3, 6 and 9 (five years of cohort results) who achieved the acceptable standard, and percentages who achieved the standard of excellence in relation to provincial results, and to charter school and provincial targets for 2003/04.
- Percentages of students achieving the acceptable standard, and the percentages achieving the standard of excellence on diploma examinations (five years of charter school and provincial results for each examination).
- Participation rate of Grade 12 students in diploma examination courses (five years of charter school and provincial rates for each course).
- Local measure of high school completion (for charter schools with high school programs) or other applicable measure.

Other performance information:

- All measures included in the charter school plan for 2003/04 to 2005/06 in relation to their respective goals and outcomes.

Note: Consistent with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act*, when the number of students or a survey participants in a group is fewer than six, data must not be reported to protect individual privacy.

Other

- Future Challenges (page 15)
- Highlights of Capital Projects (page 15)
- Financial Summary, including:
  - A brief overview of charter school financial position, and
  - where readers can obtain additional financial information. (page 15)

Average Class Sizes *[Required]*

New

- Report unverified school average class sizes for K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12 as of September 30, 2003 and September 30, 2004 by posting the school class size report generated by the Extranet application. Include a link in the AERR to the class size report.
- By January 15, 2005, post an addendum to the AERR on the school website that contains:
  - A summary of the school's three year plan to achieve the ACOL class size guidelines and/or how the school plans to enhance classroom learning. Include a statement of where more detailed information can be found.
  - The verified average class size report for September 2003 and 2004 for the school for K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12 (generated by the Extranet application).
  - Inform Alberta Learning of the posting via e-mail to: field.services@learning.gov.ab.ca.

Note: Consistent with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act*, when the number of students or survey participants in a group is fewer than six, data must not be reported to protect individual privacy.

Link 4: Performance Measures and Targets for the Accountability Pillar

Goals and Outcomes – Linkage to Alberta Learning Business Plan

Listed on the following page are Accountability Pillar measures organized by learning system goals and outcomes. Applicable measures are **required** to be incorporated in charter school three-year education plans for 2004/05 to 2006/07. New measures are shaded. In future years when multi-year data are available for all measures charter school results on these measures will be assessed in relation to improvement over time and to targets.

New

Enhanced Performance Measures – Accountability Pillar

Under the Accountability Pillar of the new Funding Framework, the set of **required** measures for charter schools has been expanded to address all required outcomes in charter school education plans. The Accountability Pillar measures required for education plans are a sub-set of the measures developed by the Review Committee on Outcomes (RCO). Alberta Learning will provide the information for these measures (continuing and new) to school authorities via the Extranet. Note: the Accountability Pillar measures include one measure selected by the charter school related to its mandate, which **must** be from the set of RCO outcomes and measures, available in Appendix 5 and online at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/rco/IndicatorsReport.pdf.

New

Survey Measures for the Accountability Pillar

To implement the new survey measures in the Accountability Pillar in a consistent manner, standardized provincial surveys were developed to collect responses of students, parents, teachers and board members. The survey methodology, sampling plan and survey instruments were developed by Alberta Learning in consultation with stakeholders. Consistent survey methodology and survey instruments facilitate data quality and comparability over time. Alberta Learning is working with school authorities and other stakeholders to implement the provincial surveys. Charter schools are responsible for administering the surveys of students (in grades 4, 7 and 10) and their teachers, while Alberta Learning is responsible for administering the surveys of their parents and of school board members. Alberta Learning will compile the results of all four provincial surveys and provide them to charter schools via the Extranet, along with response rates and comparable provincial data. The first year of data collection for the Accountability Pillar survey measures will establish baseline data for charter schools and the province. See Appendix 7 for more information on the surveys, the set of survey instruments, and advice on conducting surveys.

New

Targets for Measures

In this first year of implementing the Accountability Pillar, targets are **required** only for measures for which multi-year data are available: provincial achievement tests, high school completion rates and Rutherford scholarships. Charter schools set targets for these measures (as applicable) in the context of their recent results, which are sensitive to local circumstances, as well as provincial results and provincial targets. See Appendix 6, pages 48-53, for information on target requirements and advice on target setting and Appendix 3, pages 35-37, for the corresponding provincial results and targets for the required measures. In subsequent years, charter schools will set targets for the new survey measures when at least two years of data are available.

Accountability Pillar Measures

Goals Related to Charter School Mandate/Purpose/Philosophy	
Outcomes	**Charter School Performance Measures and Targets**
• Outcomes that reflect the particular teaching philosophy, vision or purpose of the school.	• Locally determined measures* and targets required.
• Improved student learning outcomes to be attained by students (or in provincial Goal 2 below).	• Locally determined measures* and targets required.
Goal 1: High -quality Learning Opportunities for All	
Outcomes	**Charter School Performance Measures and Targets**
• The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.	• Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, health and physical education. • Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with the overall quality of education in Alberta. • Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.
• All Albertans can participate in quality learning.	• Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that services and supports for children at risk are easy to access and timely.*
Goal 2: Excellence in Learner Outcomes	
Outcomes	**Charter School Performance Measures and Targets**
• Learners demonstrate high standards.	• Percentages of students in grades 3, 6 and 9 **(cohort results)** who achieve the acceptable standard, and the percentage who achieve the standard of excellence on provincial achievement tests. **(Targets for student achievement required for each test for each year of the plan)** • Percentages of students who achieve the acceptable standard and percentages who achieve the standard of excellence on diploma examinations. **(Targets not required for diploma exams as results are not yet comparable from year to year.)** • Percentages of Grade 12 students eligible for Rutherford scholarships (under development). **(Targets required for each year of the plan.)**
• Learners complete programs.	• Local measure of high school completion (for high schools) or other applicable measure. **(Targets required for each year of the plan.)**
• Learners are well prepared for lifelong learning.	• Percentages of teachers and parents satisfied that high school students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning.
• Learners are well prepared for employment.	• Percentages of teacher, parent and board agreement that students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work.
• Learners are well prepared for citizenship.	• Percentages of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.
Goal 3: Highly Responsive and Responsible Charter School	
Outcomes	**Charter School Performance Measures and Targets**
• Improved results through effective working relationships on cross-ministry initiatives and with stakeholders.	• Percentages of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their children's education.
• The charter school demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.	• Percentages of teachers, parents and board members surveyed who indicate that their school and schools in their charter school have improved, stayed the same or declined in the last three years.

* For the purposes of this measure, children at risk is defined as students who are academically at risk, specifically students who do not achieve the acceptable standard on grades 3, 6 and 9 provincial achievement tests in language arts and students who are excused from those tests.

One of the measures for a charter mandate goal must be from the set of RCO measures and together with the other measures listed above form the full set of Accountability Pillar measures against which charter school performance will be assessed. The set of RCO outcomes and measures are listed in Appendix 5 and are available online at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/rco/IndicatorsReport.pdf.

Link 5: Publication and Notification Requirements for Charter Schools

Three-year education plans and AERRs are **required** to be made available to the public. Charter school authorities are encouraged to use a variety of methods to communicate their education plans and their achievements to the broader community in fulfilling their responsibility to share effective practices and innovations.

Education Plans

The charter school's three-year education plans are **required** to be updated by **May 31** of each year and posted on the charter school's web site. Charter school authorities notify Alberta Learning of the Web site posting at field.services@learning.gov.ab.ca. Alternatively, charter schools provide a copy of their plan as an e-mail attachment to the appropriate Field Services zone director. **Note: Deadline has been extended to June 30, 2004, for the charter school three-year education plans for 2004/05 to 2006/07.**

Results Reports

The charter school's AERR, including reporting on the Communication Plan, is **required** to be prepared and posted on its web site by **November 30** of each year. Summary information provided to the public must include the results for all performance measures in the plan, including the Accountability Pillar measures, for each goal and outcome in relation to provincial results and to provincial and charter school targets, as applicable. Charter schools notify Alberta Learning of the web site posting at field.services@learning.gov.ab.ca. Alternatively, charter schools provide a copy of their AERR as an e-mail attachment to the appropriate Field Services zone director.

Link 6: Required Measures for Charter Plans, 2004/05 to 2006/07

Listed below are all the required measures for charter school three-year education plans for 2004/05 to 2006/07. Measures for the provincial priorities for improvement are identified; measures that are not part of the Accountability Pillar are shaded. Charter Schools include those that are applicable.

Charter Goals (Section 35 of the School Act)
• Locally determined measures (one must be selected from the RCO set of measures as part of the Accountability Pillar).
Goal 1: High Quality Learning Opportunities for All
• Percentage of teachers, parents, board members and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, health and physical education. Results for technology measure the provincial priority on improving learning through effective use of information and communication technology. • Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with the overall quality of education in Alberta. This measure also is the measure for the provincial priority to improve community satisfaction with the quality of education. • Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.
• Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that services and supports for children at risk are easy to access and timely. This measure also is the measure for the provincial priority on improving services for children by increasing coordination of services for children. • Survey measure of parents, teachers and students regarding services and supports for schools (under development).
Goal 2: Excellence in Learner Outcomes
• Percentages of students in grades 3, 6 and 9 **(cohort results)** who achieve the acceptable standard, and the percentage who achieve the standard of excellence on provincial achievement tests. **(Targets required for each test for each year of the plan.)** The Grade 3 language arts and mathematics tests (cohort results) are the measures for the provincial priority to improve early literacy and numeracy. Cohort results on the Grade 9 mathematics test measure the provincial priority to improve secondary student achievement in mathematics. • Percentages of students **writing** provincial achievement tests in grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieve the acceptable standard and percentages who achieve the standard of excellence. **(Targets required for each test for each year of the plan.)** • Percentages of students who achieve the acceptable standard and percentages who achieve the standard of excellence on diploma exams. (for high school programs) **(Targets not required for diploma examinations, as results are not yet comparable from year to year.)** • Participation rates of Grade 12 students in diploma examination courses. (for high school programs) • Percentages of Grade 12 students eligible for Rutherford scholarships (under development). (for high school programs) **(Targets required for each year of the plan.)** • Local measures of achievement for children/students whose first language is other than English, Aboriginal children/students, children/students with special needs, children/students who are academically at risk, and students in home education, online and outreach programs (as applicable). The local measure of Aboriginal student achievement is the measure for the priority to improve programs and achievement of FNMI learners.
• Local measure of high school completion (for high school programs) or other applicable local measure. **(Targets required for each year of the plan for the five-year rate.)**
• Percentages of teachers and parents satisfied that high school students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning (for high school programs).
• Percentages of teacher, parent and board agreement that students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work. (for high school programs)
• Percentages of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.
Goal 3: Highly Responsive and Responsible Charter School
• Percentages of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their children's education.
• Percentages of teachers, parents and board members surveyed who indicate that their charter school has improved, stayed the same or declined in the last three years. • Percentages of teachers and board members who agree that in-services received from the school authority have effectively addressed teachers' professional development needs and have contributed significantly to teacher's on-going professional development.

VI. Appendices

Appendix 1: Legislative Authority

The provincial government has developed a comprehensive concept of accountability that expanded the focus from accounting for dollars spent to include accounting for results achieved. Accountability for performance involves developing education plans to make the best use of resources available, assessing results to determine if expectations are being met, identifying where improvement is needed and reporting the results to the public.

This expanded concept of accountability, applying to government departments and funded agencies and organizations, was established in legislation in 1995. The *Government Accountability Act* (GAA) requires government departments and school boards, as well as other public agencies, to prepare education plans and report on results.

The accountability cycle for the basic learning system (*Accountability in Education – Policy Framework,* June 1995) was developed to describe the application of the government's comprehensive concept of accountability to the ECS-12 system. This cycle focuses on continuous improvement and on the linkage of school authority education plans and reports to each other and to provincial directions for the learning system, as reflected in the School Authority Accountability Policy, 2.1.1 (*Policy, Regulations and Forms Manual*, online at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/educationguide/pol-plan/polregs/toc.asp).

A variety of documents essential for school system operations are available on the department's web site, such as the three-year business plan for the learning system, the Guide to Education, the Program of Studies, the *Standards for Special Education* and the Funding Manual. The *Government Accountability Act* and the *School Act* are available on the Queen's Printer web site linked from the online Policy Manual Table of Contents, or at http://www.gov.ab.ca/qp/index.html.

Alberta Learning's website also provides information to enhance school authority planning and reporting, such as the provincial surveys of parents, high school students and the public, and the summaries of the reviews of charter school education plans and AERRs, which are provided on the Extranet.

Appendix 2: Basic Education in Alberta – The Definition

The definition of a basic education in Alberta was created by Ministerial Order No. 004/98: Goals and Standards Applicable to the Provision of Basic Education in Alberta Ministerial Order No. 004/98 Section 39(1)(f), *School Act*, February 10, 1998.

"A basic education must provide students with a solid core program including language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Students will be able to meet the provincial graduation requirements and be prepared for entry into the workplace or post-secondary studies. Students will understand personal and community values and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Students will develop the capacity to pursue learning throughout their lives. Students also should have opportunities to learn languages other than English and to attain levels of proficiency and cultural awareness which will help to prepare them for participation in the global economy."

Student Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes that will prepare them for life after high school. A basic education will allow students to:

- Read for information, understanding and enjoyment.
- Write and speak clearly, accurately and appropriately for the context.
- Use mathematics to solve problems in business, science and daily-life situations.
- Understand the physical world, ecology and the diversity of life.
- Understand the scientific method, the nature of science and technology, and their application to daily life.
- Know the history and geography of Canada and have a general understanding of world history and geography.
- Understand Canada's political, social, and economic systems within a global context.
- Respect the cultural diversity and common values of Canada.
- Demonstrate desirable personal characteristics such as respect, responsibility, fairness, honesty, caring, loyalty, and commitment to democratic ideals.
- Recognize the importance of personal well-being and appreciate how family and others contribute to that well-being.
- Know the basic requirements of an active, healthful lifestyle.
- Understand and appreciate literature, the arts and the creative process.
- Research an issue thoroughly and evaluate the credibility and reliability of information sources.
- Demonstrate critical and creative thinking skills in problem solving and decision making.
- Demonstrate competence in using information technologies.

- Know how to learn and work independently and as part of a team.
- Manage time and other resources needed to complete a task.
- Demonstrate initiative, leadership, flexibility, and persistence.
- Evaluate their own endeavours and continually strive to improve.
- Have the desire and realize the need for life-long learning.

Standards for Student Learning

The Minister of Education defines acceptable standards and standards of excellence for student achievement in consultation with Albertans. Employers are involved in specifying the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed in the workplace. Schools, school authorities and the Minister of Education assess and report regularly to the public on a range of student learning.

The school's primary responsibility is to ensure that students meet or exceed the provincial standards as reflected in the Student Learning Outcomes (outlined above), the Alberta Programs of Study, provincial achievement tests, diploma examinations and graduation requirements.

Education Delivery

Schools must engage students in a variety of activities that enable them to acquire the expected learnings. Schools have authority to deploy resources and may use any instructional technique acceptable to the community as long as the standards are achieved. Schools, teachers and students are encouraged to take advantage of various delivery options including the use of technology, distance learning and the workplace.

Schools play a supportive role to families and the community in helping students develop desirable personal characteristics and the ability to make ethical decisions. Schools also help students take increasing responsibility for their learning and behaviour, develop a sense of community belonging and acquire a clearer understanding of community values and how these relate to personal values.

Students learn basic, transferable knowledge, skills and attitudes in school. Schools, in co-operation with employers, provide opportunities for students to develop and practice employability skills. The Minister of Education provides credit for off-campus learning that is approved and accepted by the school and the employer. Government works with schools, employers and post-secondary institutions to help young people make a smooth transition to work and further study.

This document is available online at
http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/educationguide/guide.asp?id=030201

Appendix 3: Provincial Results and Targets for School Jurisdiction and School Performance Measures

Listed below are the measures from the Accountability Pillar and school performance measures for which there are historical provincial results and targets. Some of these are performance measures for the priority areas for improvement. The provincial achievement test cohort results for Grade 3 language arts and mathematics at the acceptable level are the measures for the early literacy and numeracy priority. The provincial achievement test cohort results for Grade 9 mathematics at the acceptable level are the measure for the secondary mathematics priority. The five-year high school completion rate is the measure for improving high school completion.

Provincial Achievement Test Results (cohort) and Targets (measures for schools and school authorities including charter schools)

Subject	Standard	Actuals 1999/00	Actuals 2000/01	Actuals 2001/02	Actuals 2002/03	Actuals 2003/04	Targets 2004/05	Targets 2005/06	Targets 2006/07
Grade 3:									
Language Arts	**Excellence**	17.9%	16.1%	14.9%	15.7%	15.1%	18%	18%	19%
	Acceptable	84.3%	82.8%	81.2%	82.4%	81.7%	83%	83%	84%
Mathematics	**Excellence**	25.7%	23.8%	26.7%	29.8%	27.4%	31%	31%	32%
	Acceptable	82.1%	81.8%	81.2%	82.3%	81.8%	83%	84%	84%
Grade 6:									
Language Arts	**Excellence**	19.4%	14.9%	15.1%	17.3%	15.5%	18%	18%	19%
	Acceptable	80.3%	78.7%	80.8%	81.2%	79.1%	82%	83%	83%
Mathematics	**Excellence**	16.5%	17.9%	18.1%	17.7%	21.2%	19%	20%	20%
	Acceptable	78.9%	79.3%	78.3%	78.3%	78.5%	80%	80%	81%
Science	**Excellence**	24.7%	25.3%	22.6%	24.1%	26.2%	25%	26%	26%
	Acceptable	79.0%	82.0%	79.5%	80.0%	80.6%	81%	82%	82%
Social Studies	**Excellence**	19.9%	18.7%	19.4%	20.3%	19.7%	21%	21%	22%
	Acceptable	78.7%	78.6%	78.3%	79.0%	78.6%	80%	80%	81%
Grade 9:									
Language Arts	**Excellence**	13.6%	13.1%	14.6%	13.5%	12.4%	15%	16%	16%
	Acceptable	80.1%	78.8%	78.5%	78.0%	77.6%	80%	81%	82%
Mathematics	**Excellence**	14.4%	16.3%	16.7%	17.6%	18.9%	19%	19%	20%
	Acceptable	66.9%	66.5%	64.5%	63.5%	66.1%	68%	68%	69%
Science (Form A)	**Excellence**	12.6%	11.9%	11.4%	13.0%	--	--	--	--
	Acceptable	72.0%	71.7%	71.6%	71.1%	--	--	--	--
Science (Form B)	**Excellence**	--	--	--	11.4%	12.1%	--	TBS	TBS
	Acceptable	--	--	--	68.5%	66.6%	--	TBS	TBS
Social Studies	**Excellence**	16.2%	16.0%	18.0%	18.7%	20.0%	20%	20%	21%
	Acceptable	73.4%	72.8%	73.8%	72.6%	73.1%	75%	75%	76%
Overall (all subjects and grades combined):									
	Excellence	18.1%	17.4%	17.8%	18.8%	19.6%	20.7%	21.0%	21.7%
	Acceptable	77.6%	77.3%	76.8%	76.8%	77.5%	79.1%	79.6%	80.2%

Notes:

1. TBS = Target to be set in future years when trend data are available.
2. **Achievement test measures related to provincial priority areas for improvement are shaded.** Grade 3 language arts and math are the measures for the early literacy and numeracy priority. Grade 9 Math is the measure for secondary math priority.
3. Overall results are the unweighted averages for all grades and subjects for acceptable and for excellence results and targets, **excluding grade 9 Science, Form B in 2002/03 and 2003/04.**

Provincial Achievement Test Results for Students who Wrote and Provincial Targets (measures for schools and school authorities including charter schools)

Subject	Standard	Actuals 1999/00	Actuals 2000/01	Actuals 2001/02	Actuals 2002/03	Actuals 2003/04	Target 2004/05	Target 2005/06	Target 2006/07
Grade 3:									
Language Arts	excellence	19.3%	17.4%	16.4%	17.2%	16.7%	19%	19%	20%
	acceptable	90.7%	89.4%	89.6%	90.1%	90.2%	91%	92%	92%
Mathematics	excellence	27.5%	25.4%	29.2%	32.4%	29.9%	32%	33%	33%
	acceptable	87.9%	87.6%	88.7%	89.3%	89.2%	90%	90%	91%
Grade 6:									
Language Arts	excellence	20.9%	16.2%	16.5%	19.0%	17.0%	19%	20%	20%
	acceptable	86.3%	85.4%	88.6%	89.2%	87.0%	90%	91%	91%
Mathematics	excellence	17.6%	19.3%	19.7%	19.3%	23.3%	20%	21%	21%
	acceptable	84.2%	85.4%	85.2%	85.6%	86.2%	87%	87%	88%
Science	excellence	26.5%	27.2%	24.6%	26.5%	28.8%	28%	28%	29%
	acceptable	84.9%	88.0%	86.7%	87.9%	88.3%	89%	90%	90%
Social Studies	excellence	21.2%	20.2%	21.3%	22.3%	21.7%	23%	23%	24%
	acceptable	84.1%	84.7%	85.9%	86.4%	86.4%	87%	88%	88%
Grade 9:									
Language Arts	excellence	15.1%	14.9%	16.7%	15.4%	14.2%	17%	17%	18%
	acceptable	89.5%	89.2%	89.8%	89.2%	88.9%	91%	92%	92%
Mathematics	excellence	16.1%	18.4%	19.1%	20.1%	21.5%	21%	21%	22%
	acceptable	74.4%	75.2%	73.7%	72.6%	75.4%	76%	76%	77%
Science (Form A)	excellence	13.9%	13.3%	12.8%	15.1%	--	--	--	--
	acceptable	79.4%	79.9%	80.7%	82.8%	--	--	--	--
Science (Form B)	excellence	--	--	--	12.6%	13.6%	--	TBS	TBS
	acceptable	--	--	--	75.7%	75.2%	--	TBS	TBS
Social Studies	excellence	17.8%	17.9%	20.3%	21.3%	22.6%	22%	22%	23%
	acceptable	80.9%	81.5%	83.2%	82.8%	82.6%	84%	84%	85%
Overall [all subjects and grades combined]:*									
	excellence	19.6%	19.0%	19.7%	20.9%	21.7%	22.3%	22.7%	23.3%
	acceptable	84.2%	84.6%	85.2%	85.6%	86.0%	87.2%	87.8%	88.2%

Notes:

1. TBS = Targets will be set in future years when more years of comparable data are available.
2. Overall results are the unweighted averages for all grades and subjects for acceptable and for excellence results and targets, excluding grade 9 Science Form B in 2002/03 and 2003/04.
3. * = for school jurisdictions only.

Provincial Participation Rates for Provincial Achievement Tests (measure for schools within public, separate, and francophone jurisdictions. Recorded here for information only)

Subject	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/04
Grade 3					
Language Arts	93.0%	92.6%	90.6%	91.5%	90.6%
Mathematics	93.4%	93.4%	91.6%	92.1%	91.7%
Grade 6					
Language Arts	93.0%	92.1%	91.2%	91.0%	90.9%
Mathematics	93.7%	92.9%	91.8%	91.4%	91.1%
Science	93.1%	93.1%	91.6%	91.0%	91.2%
Social Studies	93.6%	92.8%	91.2%	91.4%	91.0%
Grade 9					
Language Arts	89.6%	88.3%	87.5%	87.4%	87.3%
Mathematics	89.9%	88.4%	87.5%	87.4%	87.7%
Science (Form A)	90.7%	89.7%	88.7%	85.9%	--
Science (Form B)	--	--	--	90.5%	88.6%
Social Studies	90.7%	89.3%	88.7%	87.7%	88.6%

Provincial Diploma Examination Results and Targets (measures for schools and school authorities, including charter schools)

		Actuals 1999/00	Actuals 2000/01	Actuals 2001/02	Actuals 2002/03	Actuals 2003/04	Target 2004/05	Target 2005/06	Target 2006/07
English 30	Acceptable	89%	89%	88%	92%	--	--	--	--
	Excellence	16%	19%	19%	24%	--	--	--	--
English 33	Acceptable	88%	87%	87%	85%	--	--	--	--
	Excellence	8%	8%	7%	7%	--	--	--	--
English 30 - 1	Acceptable	--	--	--	--	92%	--	--	--
	Excellence	--	--	--	--	19%	--	--	--
English 30 - 2	Acceptable	--	--	--	--	85%	--	--	--
	Excellence	--	--	--	--	7%	--	--	--
French L.A. 30	Acceptable	--	--	--	95%	95%	--	--	--
	Excellence	--	--	--	15%	17%	--	--	--
Social Studies 30	Acceptable	84%	85%	86%	87%	86%	--	--	TBS
	Excellence	16%	19%	21%	22%	24%	--	--	TBS
Social Studies 33	Acceptable	81%	81%	81%	82%	83%	--	--	TBS
	Excellence	13%	13%	12%	13%	15%	--	--	TBS
Pure Math 30	Acceptable	--	77%	82%	85%	84%	--	--	--
	Excellence	--	20%	28%	27%	32%	--	--	--
Applied Math 30	Acceptable	--	--	--	85%	86%	--	--	--
	Excellence	--	--	--	14%	14%	--	--	--
Biology 30	Acceptable	81%	81%	84%	81%	82%	--	--	--
	Excellence	23%	27%	26%	22%	27%	--	--	--
Chemistry 30	Acceptable	84%	79%	82%	85%	86%	--	--	--
	Excellence	24%	22%	24%	25%	28%	--	--	--
Physics 30	Acceptable	83%	79%	84%	82%	87%	--	--	--
	Excellence	28%	24%	33%	25%	30%	--	--	--
Science 30	Acceptable	78%	83%	82%	88%	84%	--	--	--
	Excellence	11%	14%	12%	20%	17%	--	--	--

Note: Targets to be set in future years once the exam results are comparable from year to year (TBS).

Provincial Participation Rates in Diploma Exam Courses (measures for schools and school authorities, including charter schools)

Participation Rates	Actuals 1999/00	Actuals 2000/01	Actuals 2001/02	Actuals 2002/03	Actuals 2003/04	Targets 2004/05	Targets 2005/06	Targets 2006/07
English 30	55%	55%	57%	58%	--	--	--	--
English 33	29%	28%	27%	26%	--	--	--	--
English 30 - 1	--	--	--	--	56%	--	--	--
English 30 - 2	--	--	--	--	25%	--	--	--
French L.A. 30	--	--	--	3%	3%	--	--	--
Social Studies 30	49%	49%	51%	53%	53%	--	--	--
Social Studies 33	35%	34%	33%	33%	34%	--	--	--
Pure Math 30	--	33%	42%	44%	44%	--	--	--
Applied Math 30	--	--	--	22%	22%	--	--	--
Biology 30	38%	39%	41%	43%	43%	--	--	--
Chemistry 30	36%	35%	36%	38%	38%	--	--	--
Physics 30	22%	22%	23%	24%	24%	--	--	--
Science 30	6%	7%	7%	7%	8%	--	--	--

Note: The participation rate is the percentage of students completing diploma examination courses in their third year of high school.

Percentage of Grade 12 students eligible for Rutherford Scholarships

This measure is the unduplicated total Grade 12 students whose marks in grades 10, 11 or 12 meet the criteria for the Rutherford Scholarships.

	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Grade 12 students eligible for Rutherford Scholarships	28.5%	25.0%	23.2%	24.9%	25.7%

Provincial High School Completion Rate and Targets (measure for school boards only)

The five-year rate, shaded below, is the measure for the provincial priority in public, separate, and francophone school jurisdictions to increase high school completion rates and is provided here for information. The table has been updated to include actuals for 2002/03 and projections for 2004/05.

Grade 10 Year	Completion Rates	
	In 3 years	In 5 years
1995/96	62% (1997/98)	72% (1999/00)
1996/97	63% (1998/99)	73% (2000/01)
1997/98	65% (1999/00)	74% (2001/02)
1998/99	65% (2000/01)	75% (2002/03)
1999/2000	65% (2001/02)	75%* (2003/04)
2000/01	67% (2002/03)	76%* (2004/05)
Targets	2004/05	75%
	2005/06	76%

*Projection (results likely to be achieved given completion rates in prior years).

Information for the Accountability Pillar Survey measures:

- Baseline information is being collected in late February/early March 2004 on the Accountability Pillar survey measures. The target date for providing survey results to jurisdictions is May 31.

Appendix 4: Performance Measurement

Performance measures in charter school education plans and results reports provide information on achievement of outcomes on key aspects of the education system and the charter school's mandate. This information is an essential part of accountability that enables the charter school to:

- assess and report on progress, what is working well and what needs improvement;
- determine priorities for improvement and set improvement targets;
- make program and budget decisions to maintain good performance and improve performance in areas requiring improvement.

Measures typically provide quantifiable information on key aspects of education. This information is generated quantitatively through tests and data analysis or through qualitative means, such as observation, interviews and portfolio reviews. Whether quantitative or qualitative, measures demonstrate observable change. To be meaningful, measures information is obtained regularly (e.g., annually) and is normally expressed in percentages, ratios or numbers in relation to a total.

Types of Performance Measures

- **Outcome measures:** These provide information on progress toward desired results in key areas – effectiveness of programs, impacts on clients.
- **Intermediate outcome measures**: For some desired outcomes, results may not be known for several years. In such instances, it is useful to measure intermediate steps – milestones or landmarks – toward the desired outcome.

The measures in charter school education plans and in results reports focus on outcomes and constitute the core set for assessing and reporting on progress and achievement.

Other types of measures, listed below, are important for managing resources, providing programs and services and reporting contextual information:

- **Output measures**: information on number of clients served and types of services provided.
- **Process measures**: information on activity and efficiency. These measures indicate demand for services and cost per unit of providing service.
- **Input measures**: information on resources allocated to programs, such as funding, personnel, equipment. These measures provide information on cost of providing programs and services.

Characteristics of good performance measures

Good performance measures provide information that is:

- Understandable – clear and sufficient to provide an understanding of the organization or system to staff, community and government
- Valid – meaningful and credible (sound, defensible)
- Relevant and appropriate – timely, related to important aspects
- Reliable – unbiased, error-free and verifiable
- Comparable – show change over time and/or among similar organizations
- Discrete – provides information in distinct, non-overlapping categories
- Empowering – useful for decision making, promote improvement
- Practical – can be reliably assessed with reasonable effort

References:

Alberta Treasury, *Measuring Performance: A Reference Guide*, September 1996. On the Internet at http://www.treas.gov.ab.ca/publications/measuring/. Click on "Other Alberta performance measurement documents."

Alberta Auditor General, *Government Accountability*, February 1997. On the Internet at http://www.oag.ab.ca/. Click on "The Reading Room."

New

Appendix 5: Set of Outcomes and Measures – Review Committee on Outcomes

Note: The Funding Framework Review Committee selected a sub-set of the measures listed below for the Accountability Pillar of the Renewed Funding Framework. Accountability Pillar measures are shaded in the following list. Some of these are survey measures. The results for the Accountability Pillar survey measures are collected on common census surveys of grades 4, 7 and 10 students, parents and teachers and of school board numbers. **In addition, for the Accountability Pillar, charter schools must select an additional outcome related to their charter goal and associated measure from the list below and incorporate these into the charter goal section of their education plans, and report the results in their annual results reports.**

Section A: Student Learning

Outcomes	Measures
A. 1a. Students receive a broad program of studies including: a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.	Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board satisfaction that students are receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.
	Course completions as a percentage of enrolments in language arts, math, science and social studies at the high school level.
	Panel (educators, experts, parents, and public) satisfaction that the curriculum is sufficient to provide a solid grounding in language arts, math, science and social studies.
A. 1b. Students receive a broad program of studies including: instruction in the fine arts, career, technology, health, physical education, and where appropriate, religious education.	**Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, health, physical education,** and where appropriate, religious education.*
	Credits awarded annually in selected subject areas in grades 10-12 (fine arts, CTS, physical education, CALM, religious education) as a percentage of total credits awarded.
	Annual panel (educators, experts, parents, and public) satisfaction that selected student timetables in grades 7 to 12 reflect a broad program of studies.
A. 1c. Students receive a broad program of studies including: a basic understanding of a second language.	Annual percentage of high school students who completed a second language course by grade 12.
MEASURES ON HOLD UNTIL PROGRAM IS IN PLACE	
A. 1c. Students receive a broad program of studies including: a basic understanding of a second language.	Parent agreement that their child is progressing well in learning to use a second language.
	Annual percentage of elementary and junior high school students who completed a second language program.

*Religious education is not included on the common Accountability Pillar surveys.

Section A: Student Learning (continued)

Outcomes	Measures
A. 2. Students attain high standards of prescribed curriculum outcomes in a rich and challenging program.	Percentage of high school students receiving Rutherford Scholarships.
	Percentage of students who achieve standards (acceptable, excellence) on Achievement Tests (grade 3, 6 and 9) and Diploma Examinations.
	Alberta's rank on national and international assessments of student achievement.
	Level of panel (educators, experts, parents, and public) satisfaction that curriculum outcomes represent a rich and challenging program.
A. 3. Students achieve graduation requirements.	Percentage of students who receive a high school diploma, certificate, academic standing, enter an apprenticeship program or Alberta post-secondary institution directly from high school without a formal credential, within five years of entering grade 10.
A. 4. The learning system contributes to the student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional, and spiritual development.	Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with the opportunity for students to develop the intellectual, social, physical, emotional, and spiritual aspects within their school.
	Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board satisfaction that the learning system is contributing to the student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional, and spiritual development.
	Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board satisfaction with the overall quality of education in Alberta.
A. 5. Students learn to their maximum individual potential.	Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction that students are challenged to their maximum individual potential.
	Percentage of students that drop out of school each year by grade level.

Section A: Student Learning (continued)

Outcomes	Measures
A. 6. Students demonstrate active citizenship.	**Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board satisfaction that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.**
	Percentage of students participating in school/community leadership, citizenship, and/or cultural activities.
A. 7. Students demonstrate the skills and attitudes for life-long learning.	**Percentage of teacher, parent, public, employer and post-secondary instructor satisfaction that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for life-long learning.**
	Percentage of high school graduate satisfaction that schooling has prepared them for lifelong learning 2, 4 and 10 years after high school completion.
A. 8. Students demonstrate preparedness for work.	Percentage of employers satisfied with the Conference Board of Canada employability skills of Alberta high school graduates hired within the last two years.
	Percentage of teacher, parent and board agreement that students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work.
	Percentage of students who agree that they were prepared for the opportunities and expectations of the workplace two and four years after high school completion.
	Annual provincial ratio of total of high school students enrolled and credits awarded in career education (Work Experience, RAP, IOP, CTS) compared to total of high school students enrolled and credits attained (all subjects).
A. 9. Students make successful transitions to post-secondary learning.	Percentage of students who complete the first year at a post-secondary institution out of those that started their first year.
	Percentage of high school student satisfaction with their transition into post-secondary education after their first year in post-secondary studies.
	Focus groups of students' assessment of the success of their transition to post-secondary learning.
A. 10. Students value their education.	Percentage of high school graduates who value the education they received two and four years after school completion.

Section B: Opportunity to Learn

Outcomes	Measures
B. 1. Each student comes to school ready to learn.	Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that students arrive at school ready to learn.
B. 2. Students are provided assistance and support to ensure equitable opportunity to learn.	Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with the accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services for students in their community.
	Panel (educators, experts, parents, and public) satisfaction that students have opportunity to learn.
B. 3. Children at risk have their needs addressed through effective coordinated programs and supports.	The percentage of teacher, parent, student, and board agreement that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely.*
	Case study tracking identification of children at risk and referral to services and services actually rendered.
B. 4. A safe and caring school environment facilitates student learning in an atmosphere of trust, respect, and inclusiveness.	Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.
B. 5. Appropriately-sized groups and settings allow teachers to meet the diverse, individual learning needs of students.	Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction that the individual student is receiving the individual attention they require appropriate to their learning needs in their school.
B. 6. Students utilize appropriate learning resources.	The percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction that the student learning resources are a) available, b) current, appropriate and support curriculum outcomes and c) meet the learning needs of students.

* For the purposes of this measure, children at risk is defined as students who are academically at risk: specifically students who do not achieve the acceptable standard on grades 3, 6 and 9 provincial achievement tests in language arts, and students who are excused from those tests.

Section C: Involvement

Outcomes	Measures
C. 1. Parents are involved meaningfully in their children's education.	**Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.**
	Percentage of parents reporting involvement in their child's education.
	Percentage of students reporting their parent's involvement in their education.
	School reported parent involvement in specific activities in their child's school (attended general meeting, attended scheduled meeting with a teacher, attended school event, volunteered or served on a committee).
C. 2. The voices of students, parents, staff, and the community are heard, respected, and valued.	The percentage of parent, public, student and staff satisfaction that their input is considered, respected, and valued by the board.
	The percentage of parent, public, student, staff and board satisfaction that their input is considered, respected, and valued by the province.
	The percentage of parent, public, student, staff and board satisfaction that their input is considered, respected, and valued by the school.
C. 3. Systematic and sustainable school/family/community partnerships are fostered.	Percentage of parent satisfaction with a) assistance with parenting, b) effective school-to-home and home-to-school communication, c) meaningful school volunteer opportunities, d) information for families about support of student learning at home, e) opportunities for business and community collaboration.
	Percentage of schools and jurisdictions involved in education/business partnerships.
C. 4. School councils fulfill their advisory role.	Percentage of teacher, parent (at large), board and council agreement that school councils are fulfilling their advisory role.
	Parent perception that school councils influence decisions made at their child's school. (Focus Groups)

Section D: Teaching and the Profession of Teaching

Outcomes	Measures
D. 1. High-quality teaching is provided to all students by certificated teachers.	Percentage of superintendents, other supervisory personnel and principals who believe that the teaching provided by certificated teachers to all students is of high quality.
D. 2. A positive teacher-student relationship exists.	The percentage of parent, student and teacher agreement that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students.
D. 3. Effective teaching and learning practices are fostered and valued.	Percentage of parent, teacher, principal and board agreement that best practices exist and are promoted within their jurisdiction.
	Percentage of teacher, principal, parent (ECS-12), student and board satisfaction that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards.
D. 4. High-quality, accessible teacher education programs and stringent teacher certification requirements exist.	Percentage of teacher, principal and board agreement that new Alberta B.Eds are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers.
	Percentage of Alberta B.Ed graduates' agreement that their teacher education program prepared them adequately to meet the teaching quality standard for initial certification, two years after graduation.
	Panel (educators, experts, parents, and public) satisfaction that teacher education programs are accessible and teacher certification requirements are stringent.
D. 5. Teaching is recognized as a profession and teachers exercise their judgment and authority consistent with their professional rights and responsibilities.	Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board agreement that teaching is a profession requiring its members to: a) have specialized knowledge and skills, b) apply their specialized knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment, c) provide a service to society.
D. 6. Ongoing professional growth is fostered through systematic professional development.	The percentage of teachers and boards reporting that in the past 3-5 years the professional development and in-servicing received from the school authority has been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth. *

* Measure for ACOL reporting recommendation on professional development.

Section E: Leadership and Governance

Outcomes	Measures
E. 1. The highest priority of the learning system is the success of each student.	Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board agreement that the highest priority of the learning system is the success of the student.
	Improvement over time of students, who are not subject to IPPs, performing below, at or above grade level.
	Improvement over time of students, who are subject to IPPs, meeting or not meeting IPP goals.
E. 2. The learning system is characterized by ongoing school improvement.	**Percentage of teachers, parents, students and boards indicating that their school and school(s) in their jurisdiction have improved, stayed the same, or become worse in the last three years.**
	Percentage of teachers, parents and boards indicating that the Alberta learning system has improved, stayed the same, or become worse in the last three years.
E. 3. Consultation, research, and commitment to principles guide policy decisions in the learning system.	The percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board agreement that the learning system is committed to consultation, research, and principles of the School Act. *The learning system includes schools, province, school boards etc.*
E. 4. Student learning is supported by evaluation practices that provide information about important outcomes.	The percentage of teacher, parent, student, stakeholder and board agreement that Alberta Learning, school jurisdictions and schools use the results of student, teacher, program, school, and school system evaluation to improve student learning.
E. 5. Locally elected school boards are accountable to their electorates and responsive to their local communities.	Percentage of teacher, parent, public and board agreement that their jurisdiction is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. (See E7)
	Percentage of teacher, parent, public and board agreement that their jurisdiction is responsive to their local communities.
E. 6. The Program of Studies offered in public schools is free, universal, and accessible.	Teacher, parent, high school student and board satisfaction that core and optional courses are available for students to graduate on time.
	Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that the fees charged for consumables (instructional supplies, materials and rentals) are reasonable.
	Panel (educators, experts, public and parents) satisfaction that the Program of Studies offered in the jurisdictions or the province is free, universal and accessible.

Outcomes	Measures
E. 7. All elements of the learning system are highly accountable and communicate effectively with the public.	Percentage of teacher, parent, public, board satisfaction that the learning system (government, jurisdictions, schools) is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public.
E. 8. The Government of Alberta is accountable for its role in the success of the learning system.	Stakeholder (ASBA, CASS, ATA, AHSCA, etc) satisfaction with the role of Alberta Learning, relating to selected core businesses, in the success of the learning system.
	Stakeholder satisfaction with the role of Alberta Government, relating to selected core businesses, in the success of the learning system.
E. 9. Effective and facilitative leadership supports teaching and learning.	Percentage of parent, public, student, staff and board satisfaction that the leadership at the school, school board and provincial level effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning.
F. 1. Facilities meet the learning needs of students and the program delivery needs of staff.	Percentage of parent, student, staff and board satisfaction that the facility, space and equipment meet the learning needs of students.
	Percentage of parent, student, staff and board satisfaction that the facility, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff.
F. 2. Facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff, and the community.	Percentage of buildings rated as good, fair, and poor according to the Capital Planning Initiative.
	Percentage of students, staff and community satisfaction that facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community.
	Frequency distribution of the length of time from board request to provincial approval to completion of new construction or major capital improvements.

Appendix 6: Setting Targets for Performance Measures

Revised Targets are relevant for performance measures at all levels of Alberta's learning system, including charter school and provincial levels of performance. The information provided below relates specifically to school authority and school target setting.

Definition

A target is a desired level of performance or observable performance to be attained by a specified time. Targets are a commitment to improvement.

Purpose

Targets support continuous improvements and are used to assess and report achievement in relation to the desired level of performance. Targets indicate the extent of improvement the organization is striving to achieve by a point in time (e.g., by a certain year), and provide a focus for efforts to achieve improvement, including resource allocation, staffing, and strategy development and implementation.

New Targets are required for the Accountability Pillar measures. For measures without data, this target requirement will be implemented as data becomes available. Charter school performance on the required measures will be assessed in part against improvement targets set by charter schools for the measures.

New ***Principles***

1. Targets for performance measures are a valuable part of planning, assessment and reporting.
2. Targets should be meaningful, achievable and challenging.
3. Targets should benefit students and help improve student learning.
4. Target-setting should be an interactive process that takes a variety of qualitative and quantitative information into account:

   Charter school and provincial performance over time provide a frame of reference for use in setting charter school targets. Charter school targets will vary from provincial targets, taking into consideration school and community characteristics, past results and other information.
5. Targets should be communicated to parents and the public so that Albertans are part of the system-wide efforts to improve education for students.

New ***Target Requirements for Accountability Pillar Measures***

1. Charter school targets are required for measures for which there is historical data. Specifically:
   - one-year targets when there are two years of data,
   - two-year targets when there are three years of data, and
   - three-year targets when there are four or more years of data.
2. Targets should be expressed quantitatively in relation to a whole (e.g. percentages, ratios).

3. Charter school targets need to be set in relation to provincial targets and results, as well as to charter school results.
4. Target setting should be consistent with data collection methods. Data reliability and variability should be considered in target setting. For example, since survey results based on random sampling have confidence intervals (e.g., plus or minus 2.5 % 19 times out of 20) to reflect sampling variability, targets for survey measures would need to exceed the latest actual result by more than the confidence interval in order to be considered improvement targets. For illustration, see the visual display example on page 50, *Public Satisfaction that High School Students are Well Prepared for Citizenship.* The targets of 60% for 2003/04 and 2004/05 are **maintenance** targets (i.e., they are within the confidence interval of the last actual result of 59% in 2002/03). The target value would need to be at least 62% to be considered an **improvement** target. (i.e., exceeding the confidence interval of the last actual result – 59% in 2002/03).

   Note on phase in of targets for student results on diploma examinations: Diploma examinations are being made comparable from year to year by building a common set of questions (anchor items) into the machine-scored portion and equating cut scores. This is taking place as the curriculum is revised for each diploma exam course. Once the exam is comparable for a course, charter school targets will be required for diploma exam results. See table on page 53 for implementation of comparable exams and targets in diploma exam courses over the next few years. The information on the Diploma Examination Program available online at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/testing/diploma/dip_gib/ will be updated as more information becomes available about diploma exam comparability over time.

New Guidelines

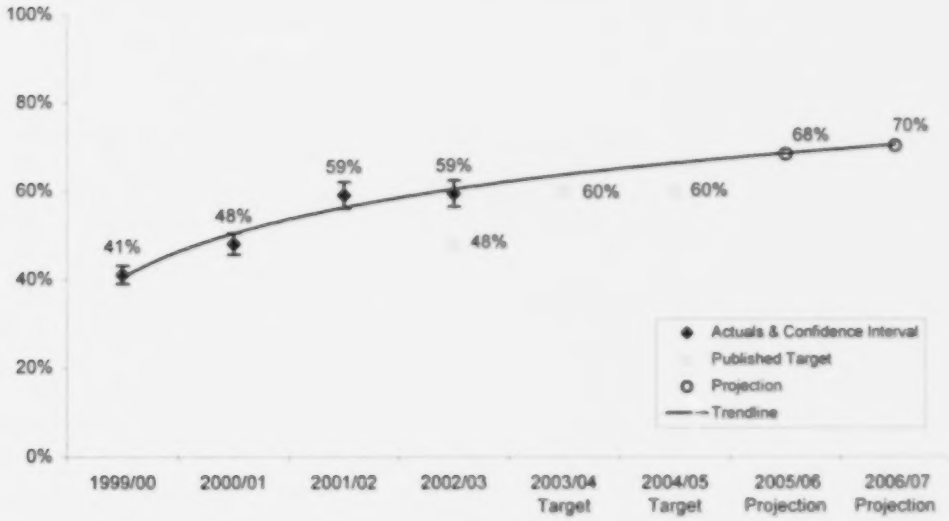
1. Consider a wide variety of information in setting targets: past performance, including trends over time on the measure under consideration as well as related measures (e.g., using prior years' Grade 3 achievement test results to set Grade 6 achievement test results), student or school characteristics, resources, both financial and human, that can be applied to achieve improvement, etc.
2. Involve stakeholders in setting targets at each level. School councils and staff should have input in setting school-level targets; community representatives should have input to charter school targets.
3. When setting targets, prioritize to focus on areas needing improvement, and ensure organizational capacity and resources are in place, including budget, staff and concrete actions of benefit to student learning that will be taken to improve results and achieve the targets.
4. While targets typically indicate the extent of improvement desired over current performance, it may be reasonable to set "hold the line" targets to maintain current levels of performance in some areas temporarily while directing attention to the areas where results are in greater need of improvement, or when results are at a high level (e.g., over 90%).
5. Set targets in relation to other targets, i.e., measures that impact each other. For example, performance on achievement tests in Grade 3 has implications for performance in Grade 6 three years later.

6. Visual displays, such as trend-line graphs and projections, aid in illustrating results and in setting targets. Trend lines, incorporating up to five years of historical data, or rolling three-year averages to smooth out year-to-year variability (particularly evident in smaller charter schools), shift the focus from smaller, year-to-year changes to providing information about the longer term direction of the data, including estimates of future results. Examples that include projections are provided below.

7. Sound judgment that takes the local context into account, as well as local and provincial results, is needed for setting targets. In other words, trend data, graphs and projections are an aid to target setting – they do not in themselves determine the targets.

New **Examples of Visual Displays of Results and Projections**

Public Satisfaction that High School Students are Well Prepared for Citizenship



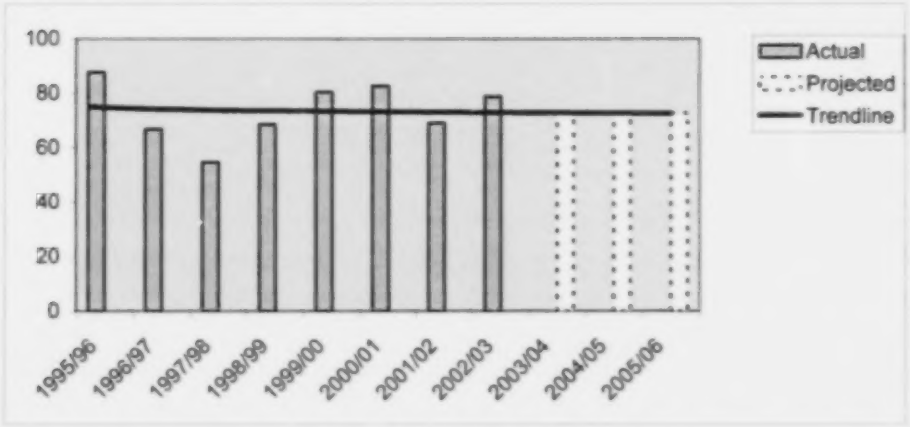
Notes:

- Results obtained by surveying a random sample of a target population (e.g., students, teachers) have a confidence interval, which is expressed as a percentage above and below the obtained result. A confidence interval indicates the expected variation from the obtained survey result, as a consequence of sampling and diversity among respondents, if repeated samples were surveyed. In the example above, the confidence intervals range from +/-2.2% to 2.9%, depending on the year. Differences in survey results over time or among respondent groups on the same survey question are reported at the .05 level of confidence (i.e., the same results would be obtained in repeated surveys 19 times out of 20). The lines above and below the results presented for public satisfaction with preparation for citizenship indicate the confidence interval for the survey result.
- The maintenance target of 48% for 2002/03 was set in 2000 before the 2001/02 result of 59% was available. Similarly, the targets for 2003/04 and 2004/05 were set before the result of 59% was repeated in 2002/03. Judgment was used in setting the targets for 2003/04 and 2004/05. It was considered unrealistic to expect results to continue to increase at the rate achieved from 1999/2000 to 2001/02, as indicated by the projected trend line. Also, the question on the survey was clarified in 2001/02, which may have affected results in that and subsequent years.

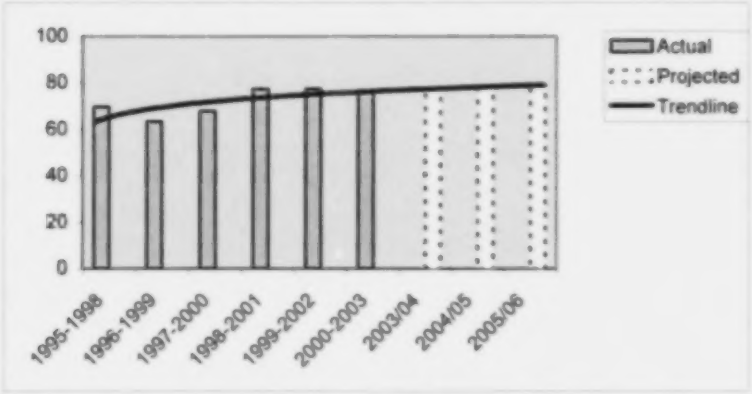
Provincial Achievement Test Results – Grade 6 Science Acceptable (cohort results)

The graphs that follow illustrate the difference in analysis of trends using year-to-year data (first graph) and rolling three-year averages (second graph) when there is considerable year-to-year variability. The rolling average smoothes out the variability and presents the trend line clearly. Charter schools with smaller numbers of students taking each test (e.g., fewer than 100 students) are more likely to have greater variability in results from year to year and may wish to use a smoothing technique with longitudinal data to aid in setting targets.

PAT Acceptable Standard results and projections for Grade 6 Science (example school authority)



Three-year moving averages and projections of PAT Acceptable Standard results for Grade 6 Science (example school authority)



Notes:

- For the achievement test trend line above and the trend line for citizenship (next page), logarithmic trend lines were used to illustrate historical results and to project likely future results. Logarithmic trend lines are appropriate for proportional data (i.e., data expressed as percentages of a whole, and therefore ranging between 0% and 100%).
- While reporting five years of results is required, more years of comparable longitudinal data are useful in detecting trends over time to assist with target-setting.
- Another technique for smoothing (not illustrated) when there is a substantial data series would be to remove the highest and lowest results from the series, and prepare the trend line and projection based on the remaining results. If this approach were used with the Grade 6 science example above (top graph), the 1995/96 and 1997/98 results would be excluded from the trend line.

New **Timelines for Diploma Exam Equating/Target Setting (Information for future years)**

Diploma examinations are being made comparable from year to year by building in a common set of test items (anchor items) and adjusting student scores so that standards for acceptable and for excellence remain constant (equating). The process varies in relation to subject-specific challenges.

This comparability of diploma exams over time is being implemented as diploma examination courses are being revised. Once the examination is comparable for a course, charter schools will be required to start setting targets for the examination results when there is one year of results comparable to the baseline year results (two years of results). Provided below is the updated schedule over the next few years for equating diploma examinations and setting targets for results. **Note: major changes have been made to this schedule.** Detailed information will be provided online as it becomes available at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/testing/diploma/dip_gib/.

School Year	Social Studies 30 Social Studies 33	Pure Mathematics 30 Physics 30 Chemistry 30	English Language Arts 30-1 English Language Arts 30-2 Applied Mathematics 30 Biology 30
2003/04	Baseline established for equating.		
2004/05	• Two years of comparable results available. • Set one-year target for 2006/07.	Baseline established for equating.	
2005/06	• Three years of comparable results available. • Set targets for 2007/08.	• Two years of comparable results available. • Set one-year target for 2007/08.	Baseline established for equating.
2006/07	• Four years of comparable results available. • Assess achievement of 2006//07 targets. • Set targets for 2008/09	• Three years of comparable results available. • Set targets for 2008/09 and 2009/10.	• Two years of comparable results available. • Set one-year target for 2008/09.
2007/08	• Five years of comparable results available. • Assess achievement of 2007/08 targets.	• Four years of comparable results available. • Set targets for 2010/11. • Assess achievement of 2007/08 targets.	• Three years of comparable results available. • Set targets for 2009/10 and 2010/11.
2008/09	• Six years of comparable results. • Assess achievement of 2008/09 targets.	Cycle continues; target setting and assessment of results roll forward a year.	• Four years of comparable results available. • Set targets for 2011/12. • Assess achievement of 2008//09 targets.
2009/10	New curriculum implemented.	Cycle continues; target setting and assessment of results roll forward a year.	Cycle continues; target setting and assessment of results roll forward a year.

Note: Establishing baselines for equating will be done only for multiple-choice tests, and for English versions of tests (not Français 30 or French versions, due to small populations). Similarly, there will not be an equating process for Science 30, also because of small populations. The curriculum revision schedule will be monitored closely and the timeline adjusted if the timing of revising a diploma examination course changes. Charter schools will be advised of any changes to the timeline.

Appendix 7: Measuring Performance through Surveys

Revised

Introduction

Gathering feedback and perspectives from stakeholders and beneficiaries of the learning system provides insight on the attitudes and opinions of Albertans on the performance of the learning system. Conducting survey research is an important tool for determining what is working well, where improvement is required, and how it can be achieved.

Revised

Required Provincial Surveys for Accountability Pillar Measures

The Accountability Pillar consists of a set of measures selected by the Funding Framework Review Committee from the work of the Review Committee on Outcomes (RCO). Some of these are surveys measures. To ensure consistency in results for the Accountability Pillar measures across the province and support charter schools in gathering and reporting these results in their Annual Education Results Reports, Alberta Learning is implementing annual surveys, starting in 2003/04, of students, parents, teachers and charter board members. The surveys of students and teachers are administered at schools, using the same process as for achievement tests and diploma exams. Alberta Learning is conducting a mailed survey of parents and a telephone survey of board members. The survey instruments are provided in this document starting on page 57, and also are available online at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/educationsystem/Satisfaction/.

Revised

School Authority Surveys

Many school authorities, including charter schools, routinely survey a variety of client groups. As the new provincial surveys are limited to the survey measures in the Accountability Pillar, charter school surveys are expected to continue. These charter school surveys provide a wealth of information that informs management and decision-making. Their continuation also adds to existing longitudinal data and provides more complete parent, student and teacher information for charter schools, as Alberta Learning is surveying only grades 4, 7, and 10 students, and their parents and teachers.

Charter schools may choose to include local survey measures in their three-year education plans as measures for provincial or local goals and to report these survey results in their AERRs.

Note: Results from charter school surveys cannot be used to report on the Accountability Pillar measures, as the methodologies are different from charter school to charter school or between charters schools and the province. Only the provincial survey results can be used to report on the Accountability Pillar measures.

New

Survey Resources

There are many published resources on conducting surveys. To assist school authorities in planning, designing and implementing surveys, a handbook was prepared by Hargroup Management Consultants, Inc. (under contract to Alberta Learning) and tailored to the type of surveys conducted by school authorities. This document, *How to Conduct Satisfaction Surveys: A Practical Guide to Conducting Surveys within Alberta's Learning System,* is available online at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/educationsystem/Satisfaction/ and describes in detail (pages 4-33) the key steps from the following checklist for those involved in conducting satisfaction surveys in Alberta's basic learning system.

Phases of the Survey Process

Planning a Survey

- Develop a description of the satisfaction survey project.
- Define the survey population (students, parents, teachers or citizens).
- Identify key research questions or objectives.
- Establish the project budget and timelines, including determining if the survey will be conducted in-house or contracted to a survey research firm.

Designing the Survey

- Determine the data collection techniques.
- Design the survey tools and instruments (e.g., questionnaire).
- Pre-test the survey tools and instruments.

Conducting the Survey

- Prepare instruments, staff and equipment for survey administration, including selecting a contractor, if used.
- Collect data from respondents.
- Prepare data for analysis.
- Analyze the data.

Communicating Survey Results

- Identify stakeholder groups to report survey results.
- Determine methods to report survey results.
- Prepare survey results report.
- Communicate results to interested individuals or groups.

Implementing Survey Results

- Develop and implement initiatives to address the survey results.
- Gain additional feedback from stakeholders.
- Evaluate the successes and challenges of the survey project.
- Plan future satisfaction measurement issues.

Another useful resource on conducting surveys in the public sector (*Client Satisfaction Surveys*, October 1998) was prepared by the Alberta Auditor General's Office. This document is available on the Internet at: http://www.oag.ab.ca under "Reading Room."

The following pages contain the surveys of grades 4, 7 and 10 students, parents and teachers and of board members.

Student Grade 4 Questionnaire

Dear Student:

Please help Alberta Learning by answering the questions on this form.

- Do not write your name on this form.
- Read each question and answer it carefully.
- Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O).
- If you are unsure about a question, fill in the circle under 'Don't Know' or leave it blank.
- This is not a test. There are no right or wrong answers.
- When you are finished, please place your completed questionnaire in the envelope provided for your class

The answers you provide will not be shared with anyone.

Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O). The circle must be completely filled in.

Please answer the following questions:	Very Good	Good	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know
1. Do you think your school is	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
2. Are the teachers in your school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
			Yes	**No**	**Don't know**
3. At school, do most students help each other			O_1	O_2	O_3
4. At school, do most students respect each other			O_1	O_2	O_3
5. At school, do most students follow the rules			O_1	O_2	O_3
6. Are you proud of your school			O_1	O_2	O_3
7. At school, are you encouraged to try your best			O_1	O_2	O_3
8. Is it easy to get help with school work at your school if you need it			O_1	O_2	O_3
9. Can you get help at your school with problems that are not related to school work			O_1	O_2	O_3
10. When you need it, are teachers at your school available to help you			O_1	O_2	O_3
11. Do you feel safe at school			O_1	O_2	O_3
12. Do you feel safe on the way to and from school			O_1	O_2	O_3
13. Do other students treat you well			O_1	O_2	O_3
14. Do your teachers care about you			O_1	O_2	O_3
15. Are you treated fairly by adults in your school			O_1	O_2	O_3

16. Are you a girl or boy?

O_1 Girl O_2 Boy

Thank you for your time and assistance with this survey.

Student Grade 7 Questionnaire

Dear Student:

Please help Alberta Learning by answering the questions on this form.

- Do not write your name on this form.
- Read each question and answer it carefully.
- Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O).
- If you are unsure about a question, fill in the circle under 'Don't Know' or leave it blank.
- This is not a test. There are no right or wrong answers.
- When you are finished, please place your completed questionnaire in the envelope provided for your class

The answers you provide will not be shared with anyone.

Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O). The circle must be completely filled in.

Please answer the following questions:	Very Good	Good	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know
1. Overall, is the education you are receiving at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
2. Is the quality of teaching at your school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
3. Is the variety of courses available to you at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
4. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **music** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
5. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **drama** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
6. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **art** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
7. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **computers** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
8. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **health** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
9. Are the opportunities you have to learn **another language** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
10. Are the opportunities you have to participate in **physical education** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O). The circle must be completely filled in.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
11. The core subjects (math, language arts, social studies, science) I am learning at school are useful to me	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
12. My school work is interesting	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
13. My school work is challenging	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
14. It is clear what I am expected to learn at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
15. At school, students help each other	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
16. At school, students respect each other	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
17. At school, I am encouraged to get involved in activities that help people in my community	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
18. At school, I am encouraged to try my best	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
19. At school, students follow the rules	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
20. I am proud of my school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
21. I would recommend my school to a friend	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
22. It is easy to get help with school work at my school if I need it	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
23. I can get help at my school with problems that are not related to school work	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
24. When I need it, teachers at my school are available to help me	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
25. I feel safe at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
26. I feel safe on the way to and from school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
27. Other students treat me well	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
28. My teachers care about me	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
29. I am treated fairly by adults at my school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

30. Are you male or female?

O_1 Female O_2 Male

Thank you for your time and assistance with this survey.

Student Grade 10 Questionnaire

Dear Student:

Please help Alberta Learning by answering the questions on this form.

- In order to keep your responses anonymous, please do not write your name on this form.
- Read each question and answer it carefully.
- Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O).
- If you are unsure about a question, fill in the circle under 'Don't Know' or leave it blank.
- This is not a test. There are no right or wrong answers.
- When you are finished, please place your completed questionnaire in the envelope provided for your class

The answers you provide will not be shared with anyone.

	Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O). The circle must be completely filled in.				
Please answer the following questions:	**Very Good**	**Good**	**Poor**	**Very Poor**	**Don't Know**
1. Overall, is the education you are receiving at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
2. Is the quality of teaching at your school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
3. Is the variety of courses available to you at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
4. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **music** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
5. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **drama** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
6. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **art** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
7. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **computers** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
8. Are the opportunities you have to learn about **health** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
9. Are the opportunities you have to learn **another language** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
10. Are the opportunities you have to participate in **physical education** at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O). The circle must be completely filled in.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
11. The core subjects (math, language arts, social studies, science) I am learning at school are useful to me	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
12. My school work is interesting	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
13. My school work is challenging	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
14. It is clear what I am expected to learn at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
15. At school, students help each other	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
16. At school, students respect each other	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
17. At school, I am encouraged to get involved in activities that help people in my community	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
18. At school, I am encouraged to try my best	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
19. At school, students follow the rules	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
20. I am proud of my school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
21. I would recommend my school to a friend	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
22. It is easy to get help with school work at my school if I need it	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
23. I can get help at my school with problems that are not related to school work	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
24. When I need it, teachers at my school are available to help me	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
25. I feel safe at school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
26. I feel safe on the way to and from school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
27. Other students treat me well	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
28. My teachers care about me	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
29. I am treated fairly by adults at my school	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

30. Are you a male or female?

O_1 Female O_2 Male

Thank you for your time and assistance with this survey.

Alberta Learning - Parents Survey 2004

- In order to keep your responses anonymous, please do not write your name on this form.
- Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O).
- If you are unsure about a question, fill in the circle under 'Don't Know' or leave it blank.
- Only aggregated data will be reported.
- All questionnaire data will be managed in accordance to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.
- Do not return the cover letter that accompanied this form.
- When finished, please return in the provided postage-paid envelope by March 1, 2004

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you ...	Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O). The circle must be completely filled in.				
	Very Satisfied	**Satisfied**	**Dis-satisfied**	**Very Dis-Satisfied**	**Don't Know**
1. With the quality of education your child is receiving at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
2. With the quality of teaching at your child's school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
3. With the variety of subjects available to your child at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
4. With the opportunities your child has to learn about the following topics at school:					
a. Music?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
b. Drama?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
c. Art?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
d. Computers?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
e. Health?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
f. Another language?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
5. With the opportunities your child has to participate in physical education at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

To what extent do you agree or disagree that ...	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Dis-Agree**	**Don't Know**
6. Your child is learning what he or she needs to know?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
7. Your child finds school work interesting?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
8. Your child finds school work challenging?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

9. Your child clearly understands what he or she is expected to learn at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
10. Students at your child's school help each other when they can?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
11. Students at your child's school respect each other?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
12. Your child is encouraged at school to be involved in activities that help the community?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
13. Your child is encouraged at school to try his or her best?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
14. Students at your child's school follow the rules?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

Please continue to answer the questions presented below. **To what extent do you agree or disagree that ...**	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Dis-Agree**	**Don't Know**
15. Your child is safe at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
16. Your child is safe on the way to and from school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
17. Students treat each other well at your child's school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
18. Teachers care about your child?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
19. Your child is treated fairly by adults at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
20. Your child can easily access programs and services at school to get help with school work?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
21. Your child can get help at school with problems that are not related to school work?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
22. When your child needs it, teachers at your child's school are available to help him or her?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that ...	**Very Satisfied**	**Satisfied**	**Dis-satisfied**	**Very Dis-Satisfied**	**Don't Know**
23. High school students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for learning throughout their lifetime?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
24. Your child is taught the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for learning throughout his or her lifetime?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
25. Your child is taught attitudes and behaviors to be successful at work when he or she leaves school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

	A Lot	**Some**	**Very Little**	**Not At All**	**Don't Know**
26. To what extent are you involved in decisions about your child's education? Would you say	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Dis-satisfied	Very Dis-satisfied	Don't Know
How satisfied or dissatisfied are you:					
27. With the opportunity to be involved in decisions about your child's education?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

	A Lot	Some	Very Little	Not At All	Don't Know
28. To what extent are you involved in decisions at your child's school? Would you say	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you:	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Dis-satisfied	Very Dis-satisfied	Don't Know
29. With the opportunity to be involved in decisions at your child's school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
30. That your input into decisions at your child's school is considered?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

	Improved	Stayed The Same	Declined	Don't Know
31. In your opinion, has the quality of education that your child experienced at school improved, stayed the same, or declined in the past three years?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4

The next question is asked so that we may group your answer with others that have been gathered in the survey. All answers will be kept strictly confidential.

32. Is your child male or female?

O_1 Female O_2 Male

Thank you for your time and assistance with this survey.

Teacher Questionnaire

- Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O).
- If you are unsure about a question, fill in the circle under 'Don't Know' or leave it blank.
- In order to keep your responses anonymous, please do not write your name on this form.
- When finished, please place your questionnaire in the envelope provided for teacher questionnaires for your school.
- Only aggregated data will be reported.
- All questionnaire data will be managed in accordance to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

	Using a pencil, fill in the circle that best describes your answer to the question (e.g. OO●O). The circle must be completely filled in.				
How satisfied or dissatisfied are you ...	**Very Satisfied**	**Satisfied**	**Dis-satisfied**	**Very Dis-Satisfied**	**Don't Know**
1. With the quality of education students at your school are receiving?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
2. With the quality of teaching at your school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
3. With the variety of subjects available to students at your school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
4. With the opportunities students at your school have to learn about the following topics:					
a. Music?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
b. Drama?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
c. Art?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
d. Computers?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
e. Health?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
f. Another language?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
5. With the opportunities students at your school have to participate in physical education?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

Teacher Questionnaire continued...

Please continue to answer the questions presented below. **To what extent do you agree or disagree that ...**	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Dis-Agree**	**Don't Know**
6. Students at your school are learning what they need to know?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
7. Students at your school find school work interesting?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
8. Students at your school find school work challenging?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

9. Students at your school clearly understand what they are expected to learn at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
10. Students at your school help each other when they can?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
11. Students at your school respect each other?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
12. Students are encouraged at your school to be involved in activities that help the community?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
13. Students are encouraged at your school to try their best?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
14. Students at your school follow the rules?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
15. Students are safe at your school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
16. Students are safe on the way to and from your school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
17. Students treat each other well at your school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
18. Teachers at your school care about their students?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
19. Students are treated fairly by adults at your school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
20. Students can easily access programs and services at your school to get help with school work?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
21. Students can get help at your school with problems that are not related to school work?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
22. When students need it, teachers at your school are available to help them?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that ...	**Very Satisfied**	**Satisfied**	**Dis-satisfied**	**Very Dis-Satisfied**	**Don't Know**
23. High school students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for learning throughout their lifetime?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
24. Students at your school are taught the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for learning throughout their lifetime?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
25. Students at your school are taught attitudes and behaviors to be successful at work when they leave school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

	A Lot	Some	Very Little	Not At All	Don't Know
26. To what extent are parents or guardians involved in decisions about their children's education? Would you say.....	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you:	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Dis-satisfied	Very Dis-satisfied	Don't Know
27. With the opportunity for parents or guardians to be involved in decisions about their children's education?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

	A Lot	Some	Very Little	Not At All	Don't Know
28. To what extent are parents or guardians involved in decisions at your school? Would you say	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you:	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Dis-satisfied	Very Dis-satisfied	Don't Know
29. With the opportunity for parents or guardians to be involved in decisions at your school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5
30. That the input of parents or guardians into decisions at your school is considered?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5

	Improved	Stayed The Same	Declined	Don't Know
31. In your opinion, has the quality of education at your school improved, stayed the same, or declined in the past three years?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4

The last question is asked so that we may group your answer with others that have been gathered in the survey. All answers will be kept strictly confidential.

32. What grades do you teach? O_1 Grade 4 O_2 Grade 7 O_3 Grade 10

33. How many years have you been teaching?

O_1 Less than 3 years
O_2 3 to 5 years
O_3 More than 5 to 10 years
O_4 More than 10 to 15 years
O_5 More than 15 to 20 years
O_6 More than 20 years

Thank you for your time and assistance with this survey.

Hello, may I speak with (Name of School Board Member).

Hello, my name is _____ from _____. I am calling on behalf of Alberta Learning for a survey about the schools in your jurisdiction and the learning system within Alberta. This important survey is being conducted by Alberta Learning to help improve education throughout the province. Your participation in the survey would be very helpful. Do you have a few minutes to participate in this survey?

All responses that you provide in this survey will be managed in accordance to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.* . Participation in the survey is strictly voluntary.

If you feel that a question does not apply to you or you do not want to answer a specific question, please tell me.

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you ...	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dis-satisfied	Very Dis-Satisfied	Don't know	Prefer not to Answer N/A
1. With the quality of education students are receiving in your jurisdiction?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
2. With the quality of teaching at schools in your jurisdiction?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
3. That students in your jurisdiction are taught attitudes and behaviors to be successful at work when they leave school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6

To what extent do you agree or disagree that...	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Dis-Agree	Don't Know	Prefer not to Answer NA
4. Students in your jurisdiction are learning what they need to know?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
5. Students in your jurisdiction find school work interesting?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
6. Students in your jurisdiction find school work challenging?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
7. Students in your jurisdiction clearly understand what they are expected to learn at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
8. Students in your jurisdiction help each other when they can?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
9. Students in your jurisdiction respect each other?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6

10. Students in your jurisdiction are encouraged at school to be involved in activities that help the community?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
11. Students in your jurisdiction are encouraged at school to try their best?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
12. Students in your jurisdiction follow the rules?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6

School Board Member Questionnaire continued...

To what extent do you agree or disagree that: ...	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Dis-Agree**	**Don't Know**	**Prefer not to Answer NA**
13. Students in your jurisdiction are safe at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
14. Students in your jurisdiction are safe on the way to and from school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
15. Students in your jurisdiction treat each other well at school?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
16. Teachers in your jurisdiction care about their students?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
17. Students in your jurisdiction are treated fairly by adults at their schools?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
18. Students in your jurisdiction can easily access programs and services at school to get help with school work?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
19. Students in your jurisdiction can get help at school with problems that are not related to school work?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
20. When students need it, teachers in your jurisdiction are available to help them?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6

	A Lot	**Some**	**Very Little**	**Not At All**	**Don't Know**	**Prefer not to answer NA**
21. To what extent are parents or guardians in your jurisdiction involved in decisions about their children's education? Would you say	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
How satisfied or dissatisfied are you:	**Very satisfied**	**Satisfied**	**Dis-satisfied**	**Very Dis-satisfied**	**Don't Know**	**Prefer not to answer NA**
22. With the opportunity for parents or guardians in your jurisdiction to be involved in decisions about their children's education?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6

	A Lot	Some	Very Little	Not At All	Don't Know	Prefer not to answer NA
23. To what extent are parents or guardians involved in decisions at schools in your jurisdiction? Would you say	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you:	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Dis-satisfied	Very Dis-satisfied	Don't Know	Prefer not to answer NA
24. With the opportunity for parents or guardians to be involved in decisions at schools in your jurisdiction?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6
25. That the input of parents or guardians into decisions at schools in your jurisdiction is considered?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	O_5	O_6

	Improved	Stayed The Same	Declined	Don't Know	Prefer not to answer NA
26. In your opinion, has the quality of education in schools in your jurisdiction improved, stayed the same, or declined in the past three years?	O_1	O_2	O_3	O_4	

The next question is asked so that we may group your answer with others that have been gathered in the survey. All answers will be kept strictly confidential.

How many years have you been a school board member?

O_1 Less than 3 years
O_2 3 to 6 years
O_3 More than 6 to 9 years
O_4 More than 9 to 12 years
O_5 More than 12 to 15 years
O_6 More than 15 years

Thank you for participating in this survey.

New

Appendix 8: Glossary of Terms

Planning and Accountability Terms

Accountability: Being answerable to a higher authority, e.g. a funding agency, for use of funds, results achieved and for taking action to make continuous improvement and achieve desired results.

Baseline: A set of data used as a starting point to measure changes over time using the same methodology.

Continuous Improvement: Using performance results to adjust strategies and practices so that improvement in performance is achieved over time.

Goals: Goals are broad statements that look towards the long term and steer organizations in the direction of realizing their vision. Goals are typically expressed as desired conditions or aims.

Issues: An issue is a condition that may affect the organization's ability to fulfill its mandate or achieve its goals.

Mission Statement: A mission statement is a clear, concise description of a school authority's overall purpose and role. It gives direction to the programs and services that the jurisdiction provides for its students.

Outcomes: Outcomes are measurable statements of what school authorities and schools seek to achieve. In broad terms, they answer the question, "What will this look like when we get to where we want to be?"

Performance Measures: Performance measures provide information on important, quantifiable aspects of the education system. They enable jurisdictions to assess progress toward achieving goals and outcomes.

Principles and Beliefs: Principles and beliefs guide decision-making and provide a foundation for developing mission, vision and goals.

Profile: A profile is a brief description of the school authority or school that gives context for the plan. Profiles include characteristics of communities, students, programs and location.

Strategies: Strategies are actions that school authorities and schools take to achieve goals and desired outcomes that meet the needs of all their students. They address local circumstances, issues, trends and opportunities.

Targets: Targets show desired levels of performance to be attained by a certain time. Targets are expressed quantitatively.

Trend: A trend shows a direction of data over time, e.g., enrolment growth.

Vision: A vision looks into the future. It describes a set of ideal circumstances and characteristics for the organization.

***New Testing Related Terms** (In logical rather than alphabetical order)*

Test Equating: Test equating is a procedure that establishes the relationship between scores from two or more tests and places those scores on a common scale so that student test results from different forms can be directly compared. This

procedure is usually applied in situations where multiple test forms, similar in content but possibly different in test difficulty, are administered on different test dates. A variety of different statistical procedures can be used to equate tests scores. Equated scores from different forms can be directly compared. Equated scores typically will represent the same level of achievement, no matter which form the student wrote.

Anchor Item: Anchor items are used in the test-equating procedures currently applied by the Learner Assessment Branch. Since all students answer the same set of anchor items, it is possible to determine the relative difficulty of the different forms and adjust student scores appropriately. Sets of anchor items are chosen to represent the curriculum and the range of item difficulties as broadly as possible. In order to preserve the validity of the anchor items, they must be kept secure.

Statistics and Survey Research Terms *(in logical, rather than alphabetical order)*

Statistical Inference: Using information from a sample to draw conclusions (inferences) about the population from which the sample was drawn.

Population: Any entire collection of persons or things from which we may collect data. It is the entire group we wish to describe or draw conclusions about.

Sample: A subset of units selected from the larger group (the population). Samples are studied, for reasons of efficiency, to draw valid conclusions about the population.

Census Sample: A sample drawn from a finite population that includes all members of the population.

Random Sample: A subset of a population where every item in the population has the same probability of being in the sample. The primary goal of survey research is to use information collected from a sample to characterize a certain population.

Convenience Sample: A sample where cases are selected, in part or in whole, at the convenience of the researcher (e.g., selecting a sample of students in a school by standing in the hall and interviewing those students who walk by).

Stratified Sample: A sample selected to ensure that key characteristics of the target population (e.g., gender, age, geographic distribution) are adequately represented.

Judgement Sample: (also referred to as "purposive sampling") A sample selected based on the researcher's assessment of their suitability for inclusion in the sample (e.g., selecting persons to a sample who, in the researcher's judgement, are likely to be well informed about the issue under study).

Confidence Interval: A survey result obtained from a random sample of the target population has a confidence interval, expressed as a percentage above and below the obtained result, which indicates the expected variation from the obtained survey result as a consequence of sampling and diversity among respondents. Confidence intervals indicate whether differences in survey results over time (or differences among respondent groups to the same question) are likely the result of sampling variation or represent actual differences.

Standard Deviation: A measure of the spread or dispersion of a set of data. The more widely the values are spread out, the larger the standard deviation.

Survey Instrument (Questionnaire): A set of questions designed and used to gather specific information from survey respondents.

Scales (Measurement type): A basis for ordering or categorizing data to facilitate meaningful comparisons of the aggregate data. **Nominal scales** are used for categorizing/ordering data having a limited number of possible outcomes that cannot be placed in any order representing the intrinsic properties of the measurements (e.g., male/female). **Ordinal scales** are used when the relative values of the data being collected are defined in terms of being lesser, equal to or greater than data elements (e.g., strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree). **Interval scales** are used when the magnitude of the differences among the observational units is defined in quantitative terms (e.g. amount of money expressed in dollars, weight in pounds, age in years).

Mean: The mean (or "average") of a set of observations is simply their sum, divided by the total number of observations.

Weighted Average: A procedure for combining the mean of two or more groups of different sizes that takes the size of the groups into account when computing the overall average.

New

Appendix 9: Optional Format for Charter School Education Plans

The format for the charter school three-year education plan that follows contains all the required elements. It is optional – charter schools may continue to use a format of their choosing for their three-year plan. Charter schools are encouraged to use a landscape format for their three-year education plan.

Charter School Three-year Education Plan 2004/05 to 2006/07

Message from the Board Chair

Accountability Statement

The Education Plan for (name of charter school) for the three years commencing September 1, (year), was prepared under the direction of the charter board in accordance with the responsibilities specified in the *School Act*, the *Government Accountability Act*, the *Policy on School Authority Education Plans* and the provincial government's accounting policies. The priorities outlined in this Education Plan were developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The charter board is committed to achieving the planned results laid out in this Plan.

Vision:

Mission:

Goals and Outcomes

Charter Goal

Outcomes that reflect the particular teaching philosophy, vision or purpose of the school and that reflect improved student learning to be attained by students.

Goal 1: High Quality Learning Opportunities for All

1.1 The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.
1.2 All Albertans can participate in quality learning.

Goal 2: Excellence in Learner Outcomes

2.1 Learners demonstrate high standards.
2.2 Learners complete programs.
2.3 Learners are well prepared for lifelong learning.
2.4 Learners are well prepared for employment.
2.5 Learners are well prepared for citizenship.

Goal 3: Highly Responsive and Responsible Charter School

3.1 Improved results through effective working relationships on cross-ministry initiatives and with stakeholders.
3.2 The charter school demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.

Charter Goal

What this goal means for our charter school:

Outcome: Outcomes that reflect the particular teaching philosophy, vision or purpose of the school, and that reflect improved student learning to be attained by students.

Strategies for this outcome:

-
-
-

Performance Expectations

Outcome: Outcomes that reflect the particular teaching philosophy, vision or purpose of the school, and that reflect improved student learning to be attained by students.

Performance Measures:

- Locally determined measures and targets required, one of which must be from the Review Committee on Outcomes (RCO) set of outcomes and measures.

Goal 1: High Quality Learning Opportunities for All

What this goal means for our charter school:

Outcome 1.1: The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.

Strategies for this outcome: (at least one)

-
-
-

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving learning through effective use of information and communications technology.

Strategies for this priority: (at least one)

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-
-

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving community satisfaction with education.

Strategies for this priority: (at least one)

-
-
-

Other strategies for this outcome: (optional)

-
-
-

Outcome 1.2 - All Albertans can participate in quality learning.

Strategies for this outcome: (at least one)

-
-
-

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving children's access to services through coordination of services

Strategies for this priority: (at least one)

-
-
-

Other strategies for this outcome

-
-
-

Local outcome(s) for Goal 1 (optional)

Strategies for local outcome(s)

-
-
-

Performance Expectations

Outcome 1.1: The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.

Performance Measures:

- Percentages of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, **technology**, health, physical education and, where appropriate, religious education (measure for the provincial technology priority in bold).

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members satisfied with the overall quality of education in Alberta (measure for the provincial community satisfaction priority).

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who agree that students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others, and are treated fairly in school.

Local measure for outcome 1.1 (optional)

Outcome 1.2: All Albertans can participate in quality learning.

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who agree that services and supports for children at risk are easy to access and timely (measure for the provincial coordination of services priority).

Local measure for outcome 1.2 (optional)

Local outcome(s) for Goal 1 – optional

Performance measure(s) for local outcome

Goal 2: Excellence in Learner Outcomes

What this goal means for our charter school:

Outcome 2.1: Learners demonstrate high standards.

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving early literacy and numeracy

Strategies for the priority: (at least one)

-
-
-

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving secondary student achievement in mathematics

Strategies for the priority: (at least one)

-
-
-

Other strategies for the outcome: (at least one)

-
-
-

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Improving programs and results for First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) learners

Strategies for this priority: (if applicable)

-
-
-

Outcome 2.2: Learners complete programs.

Provincial Priority for Improvement: Increasing high school completion rates

Strategies: (for high schools)

-
-
-

Other strategies for the outcome: (optional)

-
-
-

Outcome 2.3: Learners are well prepared for lifelong learning. (for high schools)

Strategies:

-
-
-

Outcome 2.4: Learners are well prepared for employment. (for high schools)

Strategies:

-
-
-

Outcome 2.5: Learners are well prepared for citizenship.

Strategies:

-
-
-

Local outcome(s) for Goal 2 (optional)

Strategies for local outcome(s)

-
-
-

Performance Expectations

Outcome 2.1: The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of students in grades 3, 6 and 9 **(cohort results)** who achieved the acceptable standard, and the percentages who achieved the standard of excellence on each provincial achievement test and overall results (combined subjects and goals). Measures for the provincial priorities of improving early literacy and numeracy and for improving student achievement in secondary mathematics appear in ***bold italics***.

		Actual 2002/03		Target 2004/05		Target 2005/06		Target 2006/07	
		Jur	Prov	Jur	Prov	Jur	Prov	Jur	Prov
Grade 3	***Acceptable***		***82.4%***		***83%***		***83%***		***84%***
Language Arts:	Excellence		15.7%		18%		18%		19%
Grade 3	***Acceptable***		***82.3%***		***83%***		***84%***		***84%***
Mathematics	Excellence		29.8%		31%		31%		32%
Grade 6	Acceptable		81.2%		82%		83%		83%
Language Arts:	Excellence		17.3%		18%		18%		19%
Grade 6	Acceptable		78.3%		80%		80%		81%
Mathematics	Excellence		17.7%		19%		20%		20%
Grade 6	Acceptable		80.0%		81%		82%		82%
Science	Excellence		24.1%		25%		26%		26%
Grade 6	Acceptable		79.0%		80%		80%		81%
Social Studies	Excellence		20.3%		21%		21%		22%
Grade 9	Acceptable		78.0%		80%		81%		82%
Language Arts:	Excellence		13.5%		15%		16%		16%
Grade 9	***Acceptable***		***63.5%***		***68%***		***68%***		***69%***
Mathematics	Excellence		17.6%		19%		19%		20%
Grade 9	Acceptable		71.1%		--		--		--
Science, Form A	Excellence		13.0%		--		--		--
Grade 9	Acceptable		68.5%		--		--		--
Science, Form B	Excellence		11.4%		--		--		--
Grade 9	Acceptable		72.6%		75%		75%		76%
Social Studies	Excellence		18.7%		20%		20%		21%
Combined (all	Acceptable		76.8%		79%		80%		80%
subjects and grades)	Excellence		18.8%		21%		21%		22%

Notes:

- Overall results are the unweighted averages for all grades and subjects for acceptable and for excellence results and targets, excluding grade 9 Science Form B in 2002/03 and 2003/04.
- Targets will be set for Grade 9 science in future years when there are at least two years of results based on the new curriculum.

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of students writing grades 3, 6 and 9 provincial achievement tests who achieved the acceptable standard and percentages who achieved the standard of excellence.

		Actual 2002/03		Target 2004/05		Target 2005/06		Target 2006/07	
		Jur	Prov	Jur	Prov	Jur	Prov	Jur	Prov
Grade 3 Language Arts	Acceptable		90.1%		91%		92%		92%
	Excellence		17.2%		19%		19%		20%
Grade 3 Mathematics	Acceptable		89.3%		90%		90%		91%
	Excellence		32.4%		32%		33%		33%
Grade 6 Language Arts	Acceptable		89.2%		90%		91%		91%
	Excellence		19.0%		19%		20%		20%
Grade 6 Mathematics	Acceptable		85.6%		87%		87%		88%
	Excellence		19.3%		20%		21%		21%
Grade 6 Science	Acceptable		87.9%		89%		90%		90%
	Excellence		26.5%		28%		28%		29%
Grade 6 Social Studies	Acceptable		86.4%		87%		88%		88%
	Excellence		22.3%		23%		23%		24%
Grade 9 Language Arts	Acceptable		89.2%		91%		92%		92%
	Excellence		15.4%		17%		17%		18%
Grade 9 Mathematics	Acceptable		72.6%		76%		76%		77%
	Excellence		20.1%		21%		21%		22%
Grade 9 Science, Form A	Acceptable		82.8%		--		--		--
	Excellence		15.1%		--		--		--
Grade 9 Science, Form B	Acceptable		75.7%		--		--		--
	Excellence		12.6%		--		--		--
Grade 9 Social Studies	Acceptable		82.8%		84%		84%		85%
	Excellence		21.3%		22%		22%		23%
Combined (all subjects and grades)	Acceptable		85.6%		87.2%		87.8%		88.2%
	Excellence		20.9%		22.3%		22.7%		23.3%

Notes:

- Overall results are the unweighted averages for all grades and subjects for acceptable and for excellence results and targets, excluding grade 9 Science Form B in 2002/03 and 2003/04.
- Targets will be set for Grade 9 science in future years when there are at least two years of results based on the new curriculum.

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of students who achieved the acceptable standard and percentages who achieved the standard of excellence on diploma examinations. (if applicable)

Diploma Examinations		*Actual 2002/03*		Target 2004/05		Target 2005/06		Target 2006/07	
		Jur	prov	Jur	prov	Jur	prov	Jur	prov
English 30	Acceptable		92%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		24%	--	--	--	--	--	--
English 33	Acceptable		85%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		7%	--	--	--	--	--	--
French L.A.	Acceptable		95%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		15%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Social Studies 30	Acceptable		87%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		22%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Social Studies 33	Acceptable		82%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		13%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pure Math 30	Acceptable		85%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		27%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Applied Math 30	Acceptable		85%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		14%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Biology 30	Acceptable		81%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		22%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Chemistry 30	Acceptable		85%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		25%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Physics 30	Acceptable		82%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		25%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Science 30	Acceptable		88%	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Excellence		20%	--	--	--	--	--	--

Note: Targets to be set (in subsequent three-year education plans) for diploma exams after the exams are equated.

Performance Measure:

- Participation rates of grade 12 students in diploma examination courses. (if applicable)

Participation Rates	Actual 2002/03		Targets					
			2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
	Charter School	*Prov.*	*Charter School*	*Prov.*	*Charter School*	*Prov.*	*Charter School*	*Prov.*
English 30	--	58%	--	--	--	--	--	--
English 33	--	26%	--	--	--	--	--	--
French L.A. 30	--	3%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Social Studies 30	--	53%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Social Studies 33	--	33%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pure Math 30	--	44%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Applied Math 30	--	22%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Biology 30	--	43%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Chemistry 30	--	38%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Physics 30	--	24%	--	--	--	--	--	--
Science 30	--	7%	--	--	--	--	--	--

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of Grade 12 students eligible for Rutherford scholarships. (if applicable)

	Actual 2002/03		Targets					
			2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
	Charter School	*Province*	*Charter School*	*Province*	*Charter School*	*Province*	*Charter School*	*Province*
Students eligible		25%		--		--		--

Note: Alberta Learning will provide the provincial and charter school Rutherford Scholarship information to each charter school (if applicable) once it has been calculated.

Local measures for outcome 2.1:

- Local measure for assessing Aboriginal student achievement (measures the provincial priority to improve programs and results for First Nations, Métis, Inuit learning)
- Local measures of achievement of children/students:
  - whose first language is other than English
  - with special needs
  - who are academically at risk
  - in home education, online and outreach programs

Outcome 2.2: Learners complete programs.

Performance Measure:

- Local measure of high school completion (for charter schools with high school programs) or other applicable measure.

Outcome 2.3: Learners are well prepared for lifelong learning. (if applicable)

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of teachers and parents satisfied that high school students who demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning.

Local measure for outcome 2.3 (optional)

Outcome 2.4: Learners are well prepared for employment. (if applicable)

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who agree that students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work.

Local measure for outcome 2.4 (optional)

Outcome 2.5: Learners are well prepared for citizenship.

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.

Local measure for outcome 2.5 (optional)

Local outcome(s) for Goal 2 (optional)

Local measure for local outcome(s)

Goal 3: Highly Responsive and Responsible Charter School

What this goal means for our charter school:

Outcome 3.1: Improved results through effective working relationships on cross-ministry initiatives and with stakeholders.

Strategies:

-
-
-

Outcome 3.2: The charter school demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.

Strategies:

-
-
-

Local outcome(s) for Goal 3 (optional)

Strategies for local outcome(s)

-
-
-

Performance Expectations

Outcome 3.1: Improved results through effective working relationships on cross-ministry initiatives and with stakeholders.

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of teachers, parents, students and board members who are satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.

Local measure for outcome 3.1 (optional)

Outcome 3.2: The charter school demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.

Performance Measure:

- Percentages of teachers, parents and board members surveyed who indicate that their charter school has improved, stayed the same or declined in the last three years.

Local measure for outcome 3.2 (optional)

Local outcome(s) for Goal 3 (optional)

Measure(s) for local outcome

Local goals and priorities for improvement (optional)

If local goals are included, outcomes, strategies and measures are needed for each.

If local priorities are included, strategies and measures are needed for each.

Notes:

- The outcome and measure that charter boards select from the set of RCO outcomes and measures are to be included in the plan as an outcome and measure for an appropriate provincial or local goal.
- All the survey measures in the plan are new, so there is insufficient data to set targets. Baseline data for the survey measures in the Accountability Pillar were obtained from census surveys conducted in February and March 2003/04 of students, parents and teachers (grades 4, 7 and 10) and of board members. In future years, these results will be included in charter school education plans, reported in AERRs and used to set targets.